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OPINION METER

This week's poll:
Where do you intend
to do your Christmas
shopping this year?

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INSIDE



Arrest Warrant

A Philippine court has issued an arrest warrant for former President Gloria Arroyo.

MAHARLIKA...Page 10



Fewer Births

U.S. births dropped for the third straight year and experts think money worries are the reason.

BUSINESS...Page 13



Divorce

Demi Moore is ending her marriage to fellow actor Ashton Kutcher.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 20

3rd fire engulfs former carwash

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A blaze engulfed an unoccupied commercial building across Mt. Carmel Cathedral in Chalan Kanoa Thursday night—the third fire to break out that same day.

No one was reported injured in the fire that razed the interior of a one-story concrete building owned by Niizeki International Saipan Co. Ltd.

Firefighters controlled the blaze after an hour.

The Department of Public Safety has yet to release information about the fire.

Sources said investigators are looking

into the possibility that the fires at the Niizeki building and at the former Stardust Night Club, both located in Chalan Kanoa, were intentionally set off.

Saipan Tribune learned that the fire started around 8pm inside the building previously occupied by the Wonderful

See FIRE on Page 4

Camacho takes his oath in Carolinian—a first

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial administered yesterday the oath of office for new Superior Court judge Joseph James Norita Camacho in the Carolinian language—the first time it has been done in the CNMI Judiciary.

The choice to use Carolinian for the swearing-in was to honor Camacho's Carolinian mother, Marcella Lieto Norita Camacho, who lost her fight against cancer three years ago.

Camacho, 42, is the first judge of Carolinian descent to be elevated to the CNMI Courts.

Camacho's father, Vicente Tudela Ca-

See CAMACHO on Page 4



Joseph James N. Camacho, left, is sworn in as CNMI Superior Court associate judge by Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, right, during a well-attended investiture ceremony at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe yesterday morning. Fitial nominated Camacho on Aug. 10, and the Senate confirmed him on Nov. 4. Inset shows Camacho's wife, Viola Alepuyo, arranging his wreath of flowers.

Korean musicians, Manta Band to hold concert for London trip

» **GEO School donates \$2K for band's Olympic trip**

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Over a hundred students from Global Education Oriented School in Korea

will join forces with Saipan Southern High School's Manta Band in a July 2012 concert that will raise funds for the Saipan band's trip to the 2012 London Olympic.

GEO School principal Seo Kwang Yul and SSHS principal Jesse Tudela disclosed this to *Saipan Tribune* Thursday during the schools' first cultural exchange program on island.

Amazed by the talent demonstrated by the Manta Band during the whole-

day celebration, Yul, who is also his school's music director and conductor, sealed the concert agreement with a donation of \$2,000 to the band's fund-raising account.

Manta Band music director William See KOREAN on Page 4

Fate of House casino bill rests with Senate panel. PAGE 3
Registry of US workers applying for advertised jobs sought. PAGE 5

Local

Kilili to Fitial: I'm working to help CNMI get more US funding

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) told Gov. Benigno R. Fitial that he has been constantly working to obtain state minimum funding for the CNMI under a wide range of federal programs already available to the CNMI, and inclusion in programs not yet open to the Commonwealth.

Sablan was responding to Fitial's earlier request for the delegate to "aggressively work" on introducing legislation that would allow for the

CNMI to benefit from federal programs that the CNMI has been excluded from, and for the CNMI's inclusion in future assistance opportunities that will be made available.

The governor brought to Sablan's attention on Oct. 6 that the CNMI is excluded from a \$2.7 million federal assistance to each of the states through the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training initiative.

Sablan, in a Nov. 10 response letter, said the CNMI, as well as American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, is eli-

gible for these initiative grants contrary to earlier information from the U.S. Department of Labor and the Congressional Research Service.

The delegate said both Northern Marianas College and Eucon International College are such accredited institutions eligible to apply for the Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training initiative.

Sablan said this program is highly competitive. Of 260 applicant institutions or consortia, only 32 were awarded grants in September.

"There will be follow-up rounds, however, beginning early next year; and I would certainly look forward to Northern Marianas applicants," Sablan told Fitial in his letter, a copy of which was obtained yesterday.

Fitial had said that the CNMI cannot afford to be left behind while other states and territories enjoy the benefits of available federal assistance programs.

Sablan said it is "not a unique situation" wherein the CNMI and three other smaller U.S. insular areas do not qualify for a funding base of \$2.5

million each under the TAAC-CCT initiative.

He said with the insular areas' small populations, it can be challenging for these areas to justify a state share of funding.

"Nevertheless, I am constantly working to obtain state minimum funding under a wide range of federal programs already available to the Marianas and to be included in programs not yet open to us," said Sablan.

He cited success in winning a full state share of Family Violence Prevention and Services Act funding in December, as well as in qualifying the CNMI and other insular areas for the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act grant program. Sablan said he's also working to bring to the floor again a bill passed by the last Congress that will ensure the CNMI gets a full state share of funding under the Byrne Justice Assistance Grant program.

Sablan said in addition to these efforts to catch up for many years the CNMI people were not represented in their national government, a large part of his work over the last 34 months has been to ensure that the CNMI is included in new and expanding programs.

He said he ensured that the CNMI is included in new and expanding programs such as \$120 million for the CNMI under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grants, and in making sure that the CNMI has access to an additional \$100 million in Medicaid grants through the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Sablan said he also ensured that the CNMI receive \$10 million in new funding for sewer and water projects from expansions of the Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water funds.

"In addition, Pell grants for Northern Marianas students will jump by \$4 million over the next 10 years and funding for Northern Marianas College by \$7.5 million over the next five years, and 798 teachers and support staff at the Public School System were kept working with EduJobs Act funds—all because of legislation on which I was an original co-sponsor and in which I made sure the Commonwealth was included," he said.

Food stamp

Sablan reiterated his request to Fitial to agree to the CNMI's inclusion in the national food stamp program or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program.

The delegate said the program would pump between \$12 million and \$24 million of federal funds into the CNMI economy, increase tax contributions to the general fund, and substantially improve food availability for many hungry families.

"I remain hopeful that you will join me in this effort," he said.

The Fitial administration, through the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs, has been opposed to the CNMI's inclusion in the national food stamp program, citing the requirement of sharing one-half of the administrative costs.

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Fate of House casino bill rests with Senate panel

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said Thursday that a newly-passed House bill legalizing casino gambling on Saipan will be referred to the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development and Programs, and so far there's no telling whether the Senate will pass or kill the measure.

"It will be up to the committee to decide what to do with the bill," said Manglona.

The Senate killed last year a similar House casino bill, saying that the matter should be decided by Saipan voters.

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan),

High surf this weekend; mariners urged to be cautious

The U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam is warning boaters and beach goers to exercise caution in all waters across Micronesia through the weekend. The National Weather Service has issued a high surf warning and small craft advisory for all coastal waters surrounding Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan.

Beginning today, surf is predicted to build 10 feet or greater in Guam, Rota, Tinian, and Saipan.

A small craft advisory for hazardous seas is also in effect for all the islands until Monday. Seas are projected to remain above 10 feet and winds are seen to remain in excess of 22 knots, creating waves along affected reefs higher than normal, making it exceptionally dangerous for small vessels and swimmers. The National Weather Service recommends mariners operating small vessels to avoid navigating in these conditions.

Mariners should only travel if necessary and check the current and forecasted weather conditions

REDP Committee chair, said Thursday night that the panel will have to "review first the bill then we will see what the committee decides to do."

Although a survey was done by some Northern Marianas College students on Nov. 4, that survey was non-binding and only less than 7 percent of Saipan voters participated. Moreover, there was only a nine-vote difference in favor of those opposed to casinos on Saipan.

The Senate had requested the NMC Current Issues class under Sam McPhetres to conduct the casino survey.

Manglona said it will also be up to the committee to "interpret the result of the survey."

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan),

prior to getting underway. These conditions are especially hazardous when entering or leaving harbors and near inlets and reef lines. Mariners should remain aware of changing conditions once on the water. Coast Guard Sector Guam advises mariners: If in doubt, don't go out!

Boaters are strongly encouraged to have a VHF marine radio on board to monitor weather conditions, communicate with other mariners, and call for help in the event of an emergency. The Coast Guard reminds all mariners that channel 16 is the emergency channel and is monitored around-the-clock.

In addition, marinas and local boaters are reminded to check that boats in port are properly secured, bilge pumps are functional, and all loose items are removed from decks. Report any boats adrift, pollution or other maritime emergencies to the Coast Guard Sector Guam Command Center at 671-564-USCG.

For safety equipment require-

The Senate leadership is thankful for the NMC students under McPhetres' class for conducting the survey.

"I am really proud of the students and appreciate their volunteerism. It's just unfortunate that only a few Saipan voters participated in the casino survey," Manglona said.

Sen. Juan Ayuyu (Ind-Rota) said Thursday he has yet to see the casino bill that the House passed on Tuesday, while other senators do not want to comment on the bill as of this time.

Many of the House members who voted "yes" on the casino bill on Tuesday cited the need to restore 80 work hours biweekly, save the NMI Retirement Fund,

and save the economy that now only relies on tourism that is still struggling.

Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) and Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan) House Bill 17-240 was the third Saipan casino legislation to be introduced and

passed since last year.

The first House casino bill was killed by the Senate. Later on, Rep. Stanley Torres introduced a similar measure in the form of a Saipan "local bill" so that the bill won't need Senate approval. But while the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation passed the lo-

cal bill, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial vetoed it, citing its unconstitutionality and recommend that a casino bill be introduced in the form of a House bill.

The new Saipan casino bill requires a \$10-million casino license fee, and a non-refundable casino license application fee of \$250,000.



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USCIS to host additional employer Q&A sessions

» Employers-only sessions to review Form I-129CW

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services District Director David Gulick will host three additional sessions next week for employers only to respond to questions about filing the Form I-129-CW Application for CNMI-Only Transitional Worker.

The two-hour sessions will be held at the National Park Service's Ameri-

can Memorial Park indoor auditorium in Garapan. They will begin at 10am on Monday and Wednesday, Nov. 21 and 23, and at 2pm on Tuesday, Nov. 22. Seating is available for 110 employers on a first-come, first-served basis. The sessions will feature a review of the form and instructions, followed by a question-and-answer period about the

Form I-129CW.

Gulick will host these additional sessions to explain the form and provide examples of the kinds of evidence that can be submitted with a petition. He will not provide legal advice of any kind. He will explain what the form is asking for; he will not tell employers what to write in the blanks on the form.

These sessions are for employers only. USCIS is conducting public session via web conferencing. More information can be found at www.uscis.gov/cw or by calling (800) 375-5283. (USCIS)

Man, 29, arrested for sexual abuse of boy

Police arrested a 29-year-old man who allegedly sexually abused a 13-year-old boy on multiple occasions.

Wilfredo Imperial Jr. was arrested for sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree, unlawful exploitation of a minor, indecent exposure, and child abuse

or neglect. His bail was set at \$50,000 cash. Preliminary hearing will be on Nov. 23 at 9am.

At yesterday's hearing, assistant attorney general Peter B. Prestley called to the witness stand detective Melissa Bauleung, who narrated to

the court the circumstances leading to Imperial's arrest. It was a school staff who reported the case to the Department of Public Safety after learning about a video showing Imperial's acts on the boy. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)



Lawmakers congratulate new Superior Court associate judge Joseph James Norita Camacho after the House and the Senate presented him with a resolution commending his ascension to the Judiciary bench.

CAMACHO

From Page 1

macho, a Chamorro, passed away 11 years ago.

Fitial, who also served as keynote speaker during the investiture ceremony, said that soon after then associate judge Ramona V. Manglona was confirmed to serve as chief judge of the U.S. District Court for the NMI, he instantaneously felt that Camacho would be the perfect fit to fill the vacancy at the Superior Court.

"He holds an upstanding professional record and distinguished accomplishments that I strongly believe would serve as an immense contribution to our judicial branch," Fitial said.

The governor said he believes that Camacho's addition to the Judiciary will greatly help the courts.

"I am very pleased that one of our own native sons, one who has worked so hard to attain a high level of education away from our shores, now stands ready to contribute his legal acumen, vast experience, and considerable talents to a position of great importance to the people of this blessed Commonwealth," Fitial said.

In his emotional speech, Camacho

dedicated the ceremony to his late mother.

"Mom always had a way with words," said Camacho, remembering that as young children their mother would always encourage them to attend school. "She would say, 'You work hard at school or you work hard for the rest of your life.'"

Another one of her favorite sayings was: "Pride is a great thing but carried too far it just becomes foolish. It's best to do the right thing and let others be proud of you."

The judge said these are words that continue to guide him today.

Camacho said that when his wife, attorney Viola Alepuyo, was pregnant with their son and he was going to be a father for the first time, his mother told him, "The greatest gift a man can give his children is to love their mother."

Camacho said his mother passed away three years ago.

"I just want to say that I miss you mom, and, today is your day," the judge said.

Chief Deputy Attorney General of Guam Philip J. Tydingco, who served as presenter for Camacho, said he first came to know Camacho some eight or nine years ago when he (Tydingco) was an assistant attorney general and senior

prosecutor with the CNMI's Office of the Attorney's Criminal Division.

"As an aside, back then and even now through the years, Judge Camacho was and has always continued to have a very neat and organized office," Tydingco said.

Tydingco got to know Camacho not only professionally but also personally. "Our families have remained close friends since then," he said.

Tydingco said the position of a judge requires that he possess the qualities of patience, wisdom, courage, firmness, alertness, incorruptibility and the gifts of sympathy and insight. "Judge Camacho has all these qualities. Indeed, they make up his character," he said.

Associate justice Alejandro Castro delivered the welcoming remarks.

Camacho's family members, numerous relatives and friends, former teachers, and co-workers attended the ceremony.

The Supreme Court was packed with present and retired judges, guests, government officials, as well as dignitaries from Guam, Palau, the Philippines, and Japan.

His first assignment as judge will be to handle the Rota civil docket, small claims, and his share of criminal and civil cases.

\$100M-plus in proposed resort-retirement homes—DPL chief

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Public Lands Secretary Oscar M. Babauta said yesterday that a Chinese conglomerate will be investing "more than \$100 million" to develop some 1 million square meters of public and private land in Marpi for a combination of resort and retirement homes, a proposal that Rep. Ray Tebuteb (R-Saipan) described as a "better" alternative than pushing for casinos on Saipan.

Babauta said executives from the conglomerate will be on Saipan in two weeks to formally make a presentation of their proposed investments from north of the former The Palms Resort Saipan to north of Marianas Resort & Spa in the San Roque-Marpi area.

"It will be a combination of resort and retirement homes, short of a mini-city targeting tourists and high-end retirees as clientele," Babauta told *Saipan Tribune*.

Although Babauta had earlier disclosed the investment proposal, this is the first time he gave a ballpark figure of the total investment cost.

Tebuteb, one of the five House members who voted against the latest bill to legalize casino gambling on Saipan, said the Department of Public Lands' announcement of a resort-retirement home combo investment is welcome news.

He said lawmakers and other gov-

ernment officials should support investments like this instead of focusing on Saipan casino legalization, which have been voted down twice during elections, as well as during a Nov. 4 non-binding survey. He said casino is already legal in the CNMI, particularly on Tinian and Rota.

But Tebuteb said enticing and supporting non-casino investors should also be complemented with revenue-generating bills pending at the House and Senate.

He said many of these revenue-generating measures are languishing in House committees, including rebate cut, increased "sin" taxes, an initiative to reduce the salaries of elected officials during periods of austerity and a review of Article 12.

"They will not only offset budget shortfall but will also help grow the economy," he said.

A portion of the area covered by the proposed resort-retirement homes development used to be leased by Flame Sako for an \$80-million hotel that was later abandoned.

A second investor, Leisure Planner, followed with a planned a \$120-million hotel but also scrapped the project even before an actual lease agreement was signed and approved by lawmakers. Then came Island Ventures LLC which planned a \$60-million, five-star hotel, only to dissolve the corporation later on.

will travel to the Olympics next year.

On Thursday, GEO School Yul expressed willingness to make the cultural exchange with SSHS an annual event.

Since Oct. 30, 18 of their students have been shadowing their local counterparts, attending classes and participating in all activities. This week, another batch of eight students will be on campus to continue the cultural exchange activities until Dec. 2.

Yul told *Saipan Tribune* that he first visited Saipan 10 years ago and fell in love with the island. He said he wants to bring his students and friends here so they could also experience the serene beauty of the island and its warm and hospitable people.

Both Yul and SSHS principal Jesse Tudela credited JP Entertainment president Jun Park for arranging the details and logistics of the students' travel. Park also vowed to bring a big contingent to the upcoming concert in July.

Tudela said the Manta Band's collection for their London trip has already reached \$20,000. The band needs to raise a total of \$300,000.

ager of Niizeki International Saipan, said he learned about the fire only yesterday morning.

Suzuki said that Wonderful Car Wash shut down after its two-year contract expired in August.

The first fire on Thursday broke out in San Antonio around 7:45am, razing to the ground three houses and one store.

As firefighters were clearing up between 9:30am and 10am, another fire occurred at the former Stardust Nightclub in Chalan Kanoa-Chalan Piao area. No one was injured in both incidents.

Residents in the area said two beggars have been staying in the abandoned building for many months now. They were not seen at the scene when the fire broke out.

FIRE

From Page 1

Car Wash, located along Beach Road corner Hagui Road.

Jang Jin-hyung, owner of Sign & Sign, said he was working inside his shop when he heard an explosion outside.

Jin-hyung thought that somebody had thrown an object at his shop so he opened the door but did not see anybody. Instead, he noticed black smoke coming out from the former Wonderful Car Wash located in front of his shop.

Jin-hyung said he immediately called 911.

"I could feel [the fire from my office]. It's too hot!" Jin-hyung said.

Yoshiharu Suzuki, operations man-

Registry of US workers applying for advertised jobs sought

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The House adopted Rep. Tony Sablan's (R-Saipan) resolution seeking a registry of U.S. workers who applied for jobs advertised by CNMI employers.

Sablan's House Resolution 17-75 asks Gov. Benigno R. Fitial to order the CNMI Department of Labor to set up the registration system.

"With this registry, the local and federal government will have a readily available database that they can use to verify reports of U.S. citizens being denied fair opportunity to be employed," Sablan told *Saipan*

Tribune yesterday.

Sablan said his office has yet to get confirmation whether a copy of the resolution has been officially transmitted to the governor.

The same resolution asks the governor and Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) to request U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services and the U.S. Attorney's Office "to look into reports of possible violations of U.S. Public Law 110-229 by CNMI employers," particularly employers inflating the job qualifications advertised thus making it harder for U.S. workers to be employed in positions filled by

foreign workers.

Delegate Sablan said he has already brought this matter to the attention of USCIS, while Fitial said he will communicate the same to the federal agency.

Rep. Tony Sablan, a former immigration director, said he

doesn't believe that setting up such registry will incur additional costs.

"Even if it does result in additional costs to Labor, we owe it to our citizen applicants to get employment," he said.

Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero

(Ind-Saipan), chairman of the Committee on Foreign and Federal Relations, separately said he has asked CNMI Labor for a listing of private sector job vacancies and the types of vacancies.

Deleon Guerrero said he's

also asking for a listing of U.S. workers looking for jobs.

But because Sablan's resolution seeking such a registry has just been adopted, it may take time for Labor to come up with such a registry unless it already has an existing list.

New contract OK'd for Tinian physician

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. board chair Joaquin Torres disclosed yesterday that a new contract has been approved for the lone physician on Tinian, Dr. Steve Lebamoff, who just returned from personal leave.

"The board has approved a new contract for Dr. Lebamoff because...the Tinian center needs a physician and every-

one is satisfied with his performance," Torres said.

Lebamoff was first hired when the health center was still under the municipality's control. The corporation took over the operation of the health center on Oct. 1 this year.

Lebamoff was hired early this year for \$130,000 per annum. Torres could not immediately confirm if the new contract of-

fers Lebamoff the same salary rate. The physician's contract is for one year with an option to renew for another year.

Lebamoff replaced Dr. Priyatharan Wijay, who exited the center in November last year.

Lebamoff used to work at THC during the administration of former mayor Francisco Borja and in the early part of former mayor Jose San Nicolas' term.

THC has a total of 15 nurses.

It accommodates about 50 patients daily during regular working hours.

Torres also said the board has extended the appointments of acting resident directors on Rota and Tinian health centers pending the selection of permanent officials. He said that both Freddy Hofsneider at THC and Edward Maratita at the Rota center may apply for these positions if they are qualified. *(Moneth Deposa)*

DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **November 22**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **November 22**.

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Coastal Resources Management Office (CRMO) will hold a public hearing regarding Coastal Permit Application No. SMS-2011-X-063 submitted by Galaide Development, LLC for the construction of Phase I of the Galaide Estate Villas located in Chalan Galaide, Saipan, lots H 22-1, H22-2, H 22-R2 and H22-3 R/W. The project calls for the development of approximately 14,000 square meters of private property for the construction of eleven (11) residences.

The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2011, 6:30 P.M. at the CRM Conference room.

The public is invited to attend and make oral comments regarding this project. The project file is open for review or comments during business hours from 7:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M. Monday - Friday. Written comments may be submitted to the CRM office located in the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan, or mailed to Coastal Resources Management Office, Caller Box 10007, Saipan or fax at 664-8315. All written and oral comments received will become part of the permit application record and will be considered in any decision made concerning the proposed project.

Please contact Coastal Resources Management at 664-8300/1 if you require further information regarding this project and/or public hearing.

RITA C. CHONG-DELA CRUZ
Administrator
Coastal Resources Management

Happy Thanksgiving
and
Have a Safe Holiday!

If you listen closely the
turkey is really saying
"Buckle-Buckle-Buckle."

Buckle up this Thanksgiving.



Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

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EDITORIAL

Up periscope, swivel east, see your future

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Let's tell ourselves that every dollar the U.S. government borrows and spends goes to an urgent and absolutely necessary cause. Let's tell ourselves that convenient lie so we can see where it has led even the healthy countries across the Atlantic Ocean. "Turmoil Spreads in Europe," *The Wall Street Journal* bannered Wednesday, warning that the continent's corrosive debt troubles now have "spilled over to top-rated nations that had been largely untouched by the crisis."

If Congress and the White House cannot make dramatic and immediate moves to tame rampant deficits on our side of the Atlantic, they're inviting that European contagion—and the markedly lowered quality of life it threatens—into our communities and homes. The so-called supercommittee of 12 Senate and House members will be a convenient target for public scorn if it fails to produce a big deficit reduction scheme by its Nov. 23 deadline. But convenient doesn't mean justified: The failure has been unfolding for years at both ends of Pennsylvania Avenue.

The supercommittee's evident inability to spread a paltry \$1.2 trillion in slightly lower (but still rising!) deficits over 10 years is only the latest symptom of our country's chronic refusal to face facts: As a nation we are spending far more than our revenues justify. We're borrowing an additional \$3 million a minute, every minute of every day, to support spending that the government's income cannot. Against that slow-mo fiscal suicide, the supercommittee's minimum goal is disturbingly low—it's not even 1 percent of the \$150 trillion in gross domestic product that our \$15-trillion-a-year economy likely will yield over the next decade.

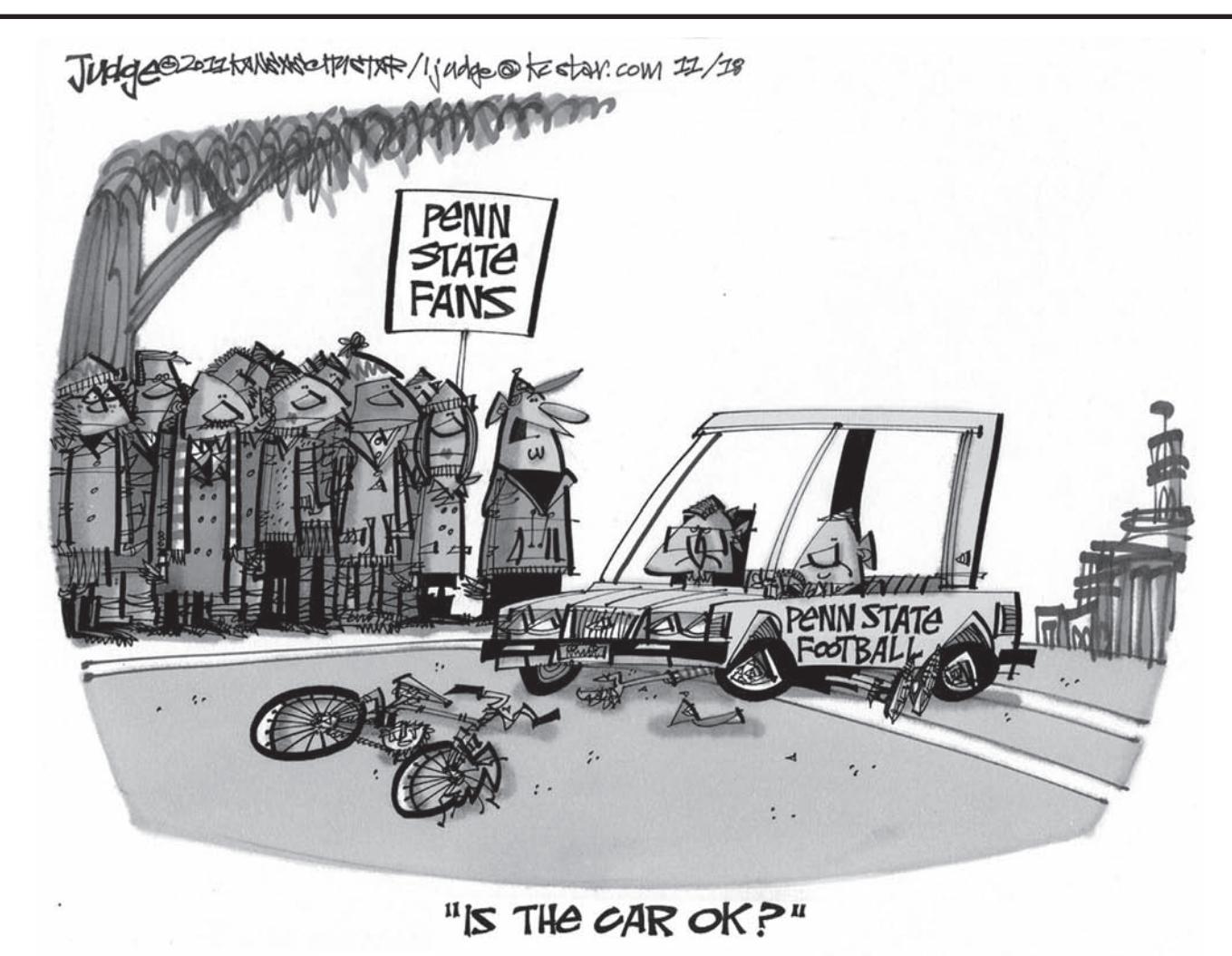
We've been hoping for at least a \$4 trillion reduction in deficits over 10 years, with a three- or four-to-one ratio of spending cuts to revenue hikes. Wednesday's news that Republicans and Democrats on the supercommittee still were hundreds of billions of dollars apart on, yes, spending cuts and revenue hikes didn't stoke our optimism.

We'll keep reading, and mostly ignoring, the daily snipes that members of both parties are directing at one another—as if each party thinks it will have someplace to hide if this effort to check deficits collapses. Equally disturbing is the sly posturing as members of Congress, on and off the supercommittee, test-market ideas for again delaying serious cuts. The more talk we hear about extending the committee's deadline, or leaving tax issues for congressional tax committees to solve later, or rescinding the automatic budget cuts scheduled to take effect if no deficits deal emerges, the more we sense that a lot of politicians are more worried about the 2012 election than about the financial future of their country.

We're not in the room, so we don't pretend to know which negotiators are being imaginative and which are being intransigent. We do, though, doubt that, if the supercommittee flops, either party will escape massive blame. And it's hard to see how, after this high-profile episode, Congress would quickly find some other means of reducing deficits. As failure compounds along with the national debt, that 2012 election could be a bloodbath.

With so few days left for the supercommittee to act, we're less interested in all the theatrical posturing than in seeing re-

See PERISCOPE on Next Page



The cult of Penn State

By SHAWN HUBLER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

I grew up in central Pennsylvania, steeped in the myth of Penn State football. I was 4 when I learned the alma mater. By the time I was 10, I knew every player's number and name. Every Saturday that there was a home game, we'd drive an hour from our tiny town "over the mountain," as my father called it, and sit high in the stands, in rain, snow or autumn sunshine. We'd do this cheer: "We are! Penn State!" The stadium would thunder. My parents had not even gone to college, but they'd yell it until their throats ached. Often, my mother would bring along her rosary beads.

"Worship" is not a strong enough word for the way we felt about Joe Paterno. Our regard for him was unquestioning. For one thing, he was Italian, like my mother. But the main thing, in our eyes, was that he was "classy." That was the word my parents used, always. The coach never bragged. He never gloated. He didn't put up with undignified antics. He made sure his players got a good education, like his, and were set for a life beyond football.

This was no small thing. That part of the country was, even then, nobody's job magnet, and as the years passed, the university only became more dominant as an economic engine. Penn State was the way to success, and, we felt, there was no greater success than to end up like Paterno—good family, good work ethic, accomplishment in something of value. And Penn State football was very much "of value." It could lift a young man up and out from a place like ours to a finer life and destination, and turn him into the kind of person we each wanted to be.

So I went to Penn State when I graduated from my small, rural high school. My parents were overjoyed. When I brought home a football player my freshman year, they were so thrilled that they took him on vacation with us. He was a second stringer who knew he'd never play professional sports, but he nonetheless felt that Paterno had changed his life forever. My parents treated him with a deference that didn't surprise me. That was how it was—the Nittany Lions were royalty.

Then, the year I turned 20, I started asking questions. One night, my roommate—a wisecracking scholarship kid from Philadelphia—asked me why the "white people around here" were so hung up on some game played by "no-neck blockheads." I tried to explain about Paterno and class and character in sports and what it all meant. She just rolled her eyes.

I tried to shake off the conversation, but her words vexed me. Who did she think she was, anyway? This was an institution. How dare she disrespect it? There were good guys and bad guys. A right way and a wrong way. And if you could question the rightness of this one excellent thing we had all believed in forever, what else might you question? Where else might true colors shade to gray?

But the seed had been planted. Suddenly I couldn't stop noticing

my own deference to athletes—the way I'd overlook the superior attitude they took around my male friends who weren't athletic, the way they got dibs on the easy classes while the rest of us pulled all-nighters and never complained. The way I'd listen, rapt, to their sports homilies, like a geisha. I began to distance myself from football. I started hanging around with pre-med students, pot smokers, Young Republicans, kids who majored in economics, kids of other ethnicities, foreign kids.

It dawned on me that Penn State had whole other facets, that maybe I had been missing out on what it really meant to be part of a university. One day, a new friend—an artistic kid whose parents lived, of all places, in California—casually questioned the community's reverence for sports, and something snapped in me. I told my parents I wouldn't be needing my season tickets. We got into a blistering argument, and I think I said something about no longer believing in "the cult of football."

I remember feeling, as I spoke up, that this was an act of betrayal, not to football, exactly, but to a worldview that was dear to people who had lifted me up to a possibility of a finer life and finer destinations. For years afterward, I couldn't hear the voice of a sports announcer without feeling that I had rejected something I could never get back, that I had gone over the mountain and returned, classless, to despise my loved ones' ideals.

More than three decades have passed since I left Pennsylvania. I live, of all places, in California now. I have tried, this week, to explain to friends here how good people could be so blinded by loyalty that unspeakable acts might transpire, right before them, and still feel unable to ask the obvious questions. I've tried to explain my own mixed feelings to myself.

Yes, I have told them, Paterno really was a great coach. Yes, he really did force kids to study for hours every night in the library, where he and his assistants could track them down. Yes, he really did change the lives of his players. And yes, as the decades passed, the belief in the essential superiority of the man and his program really did grow to the point that it ceased to be a good thing, to the point that maybe even he was afraid to wonder about it, lest the gray areas take on a life of their own.

Back home, my friends and relatives are heartsick. Those poor children, they say. That poor old Italian man, so frail now in his doorway, so seemingly betrayed by the sick underling that everyone suddenly seems to have forgotten. How could this have happened? Did they not know good guys from bad guys? What became of that excellent thing we had all believed in forever?

So many questions. It's hard to ask questions. But that's what happens when something forces you to see clearly. You open your eyes, and there you are—over the mountain, where nothing will ever look the same.

Shawn Hubler is a former Los Angeles Times staff writer.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Getting Burma right

By JAMES CLAD

McClatchy-Tribune Information Services



James Clad was a U.S. deputy assistant secretary of defense for Asia-Pacific during 2007-09 and, previously, a Georgetown University professor and foreign correspondent with two decades' experience in Southeast Asia. He wrote this for McClatchy-Tribune.

Every now and then, the complex tumblers of a slot machine momentarily align, changing things forever. In the long deadlock we call "Burma" (but which the ruling regime and most of the world calls "Myanmar"), the tumblers have aligned for the first time in decades.

If hardliners on all sides have their way, the moment won't last long—that's why it's now time to accept that change in this backward country is real and, if the West will embrace it, irreversible. An immediate opportunity to signal this choice arises in the ASEAN heads of government meeting, when Barrack Obama should meet the new Burmese president, Thein Sein.

When he does, President Obama should make clear the U.S. interest in steady reform—continuing political prisoner releases, open electoral laws, and a democratic environment free of intimidation.

Encouragingly, the now-released opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi has signaled that recent trends are broadly favorable, beginning with a startling inauguration speech in March by Thein Sein that focused on corruption, governance, and the rule of law. The iconic Burmese opposition leader has since met Thein Sein face to face.

Burma's new parliament, though stacked with government-leaning members, has lively debates and submits to critical media coverage.

The local press has bloomed, spawning newspapers and magazines with coverage so candid that media elsewhere in Asia usually pale in comparison. Aung San Suu Kyi is leading a major Films of Freedom festival. New laws have given workers the right to form unions. An IMF team has recently left, convinced of Burma's intention to liberalize its economy and join a Southeast Asian free trade area. Meanwhile, a third release of political prisoners looms in a few days.

Of course these positive trends could come off the rails. But what would the hard-line lobby prefer? Wait for a perfect world? We used to laugh at an old joke about Palestinian leaders who, it was said, "never lose an opportunity—to lose an opportunity." Yet the United States finds itself in the same spot: getting Burma right means getting past timidity, inertia and threats by an emigre non-government organization community stuck in a time warp. It means moving

PERISCOPE

From Page 6

sults, if any. This nation's financial future is at risk. And when you read about the debt-driven hardships even in those triple-A-rated countries of Europe, remember that ... you no longer live in a triple-A-rated country. Last summer's embarrassing downgrade of U.S. creditworthiness came with warnings that more downgrades could follow if Washington didn't get its runaway indebtedness under control.

The prospect of a credit market rebellion against the U.S. is no more unthinkable than the punishment that investors are delivering, right now, to some of the most well-run governments in Europe. If it can happen there ...

On that continent, public officials and ordinary citizens are joining in the realization that their economies aren't growing fast enough to support their costly entitlement states.

On this continent, though, many public officials and ordinary citizens remain in abject denial. Too many pols are stalling, hoping that some sudden economic recovery will rescue them from having to slash the deficit spending that has helped many of them win popularity—and votes on Election Days past. The 2010 election cleared many of those folks out of Congress, but many more remain. For now.

Europe isn't the U.S. and, right now, the U.S. isn't Europe. But a periscope view of what's unfolding Over There ought to worry every Washington politician back here. If it did, we'd be hearing more from the supercommittee, the Congress and the White House about a "Go Big" resolution.

So far, nothing much. And Nov. 23 arrives Wednesday.

now, this month, to avoid predictable paralysis engendered by the coming U.S. election year.

Remaining impervious to an obvious altered reality guarantees that the West will miss an opening that, if closed again, could seal Burma's semi-status as a Chinese colony, consign to marginality another generation of young Burmese, and disappoint our closest Asian friends—Japan, Australia, South Korea, India, Indonesia and the rest of the 10-nation ASEAN group to which Burma also belongs.

I think the sense of exhausted timelessness in U.S. policy on Burma lies in its provenance in the last century. We reacted then, and rightly, to severe repression by Burma's military regime of the Aung San Suu Kyi and her National League for Democracy's electoral win. But the relentless unthinking ostracism has impoverished the diplomatic toolkit. As Washington policymakers know too well, a 'principled' reaction to repressive governments has an oh-so-easy quality, especially when standing on that principle comes unencumbered by significant commercial interest.

Two decades ago, the U.S. government conveniently "grandfathered" residual (and non-operating) American petroleum interests in Burma, most of which Chevron now owns. With little or no skin in the game, how easy it is to capture a few congressional staffers, who love to ostracize Burma and play their respective members of congress like well-tuned banjos.

This type of self-righteousness about Burma (and Indonesia, and Sri Lanka, and Nepal, and Bangladesh, and ...) can and does hold fast for decades, destroying chances to open dialogue with these regimes precisely because they often comprise some very unpleasant characters.

I've seen very senior U.S. diplomats go weak at the knees when dressed down (there's no other word for it) by a senator hostile to leveraging American influence by working quietly with an offending regime for decent but un-trumpeted results.

In Burma's case, hard-line consistency of "principle" has an extra twist—giving China a free pass in Southeast Asia's most important "straddle" state. Burma sits at the Sino-Indian crossroads and how this resource-rich country tilts in future is going to matter, a lot, to American and Asian interests. Yet when working in the George W.

In Afghanistan, even a woman's name is not her own

By NASIMA HAMDARD

THE INSTITUTE FOR WAR&PEACE REPORTING

HERAT, Afghanistan—Khaleda Mohammadi, a 23-year-old university student in Herat, was beaten by her husband and prevented from leaving her home for three weeks.

Her offense? Having one of her male classmates utter her name in public.

As she tells her story, the young woman, who has been married for two years, was coming out of class one day when a classmate approached her and said, "Khaleda, we don't have a test tomorrow. It's been postponed until next week." Her husband was waiting by the front gate to take her home. When he heard his wife's name being called out, he grabbed her classmate and asked, "Why do you call out my wife's name in front of everyone? Isn't it enough that you know her name?"

Khaleda said that when they got home, her husband beat her severely, demanding to know why she allowed the boy to use her first name.

"My husband told me I couldn't go to university any more, and in fact I wasn't allowed out of the house at all," she said. He only relented after her father intervened.

"My husband allows me to go to university—but with the proviso that that he will divorce me if someone says my name again," she added.

Khaleda's husband, Feraidun, insists he had done nothing wrong.

"Out of pride, I can't stand it when someone calls out my wife's name," he said. "I can't look away and ignore it. She represents my honor. Every man who values his dignity must act like this; otherwise he has no pride."

Khaleda's story illustrates an enduring Afghan tradition that women's names must not be spoken by men outside the family. Men who take their wives or daughters to the doctor will often not tell medical staff the woman's name, even when medical staff needs to write it on a prescription.

Even within the family, husbands frequently avoid using their wives' given names, instead addressing them as the mother of one of their children.

Bush administration's last year, I found American policy on Burma bordering on the irrational: congressionally imposed rigidities prevented contact with the Burmese regime even when, as in the aftermath to the 2008 Cyclone Nargis, we had a real chance to rationalize contact, balance Burma's external relations, and advance the reform agenda.

Instead, an ageing emigre movement subsisting on political life support from Aung San Suu Kyi's long imprisonment blocked another opportunity. The White House chose to endorse an approach that, once again, relied on ostracism and excoriation—but all with little effect, other than facilitating further Chinese commercial and diplomatic penetration. Some specially targeted Treasury sanctions achieved more.

Just a few weeks ago, President Thein Sein astonished the country by suspending a controversial, Chinese financed mega dam, at Myitsone in Burma's Kachin state, along the Irrawaddy River. It's hard to imagine a clearer signal about the emergence of a New Burma.

Predictably, the ossified lobby claims this move, like others since March, says "it's not real," but the suspension, in fact an outright cancellation, is as real as it get.

Way back in 1979 I made my first visit to Burma. Then as now, a class of educated people felt dismayed by the level to which their country—once the rice bowl of Asia and a center of educational excellence—had fallen. When I was at Oxford, on a fellowship in the late 1980s, Aung San Suu Kyi's husband, the late academic Michael Arris, described this lament to me in eloquent terms.

Thirty two years after my first visit, I find that the societal memory of Burma's once honored place still remains in place, helping to drive a yearning for change. If however the West chooses to await the Ideal System in Burma (as the old saying has it, to 'Let the Best be Enemy of the Good'), we will crimp the chances for change, not advance them.

All long time residents of Burma whom I know concur that the changes over the last few years, and especially since March, are palpable, and unprecedented. The tumblers are in alignment and it's time to get back in the game—the real game of using on-the-ground influence to help Burma regain strategic balance while holding the government, at the same time, to its halting but real reform agenda.

Nur Khan Nekzad, spokesman for police headquarters in Herat, said officers had arrested eight men in the past six months for using violence after others had used their wives' names.

It's a story all too familiar to another Afghan woman named Nasrin.

"Two months ago, my husband went to buy groceries in the market. He saw a friend on the way, who asked him, in front of other men, 'How is Nasrin?' My husband had a fight with his friend and injured him with a knife."

She said her husband beat her badly when he got home, demanding to know how his friend knew her name.

"So, now he's in prison, and I face an uncertain future," Nasrin said.

Rahima Yusufi, a lawyer with the local government department for women's affairs, said her office had 10 cases of this kind in the last six months. "In order to educate men and address the problem, the gender section of the women's affairs department has organized three or four seminars for mullahs and imams, whose views enjoy great respect, because they can inform people about behavior that goes against religious principles."

Experts on Islam like Khalilollah Ahadi, a lecturer in sharia law at Herat University, say the name taboo has nothing to do with Islam. "Religious scholars have a duty to do some serious work to tackle such problems," Ahadi said.

Sayed Khalil Moayed, a psychiatrist in Herat, said the name issue relates to how women are viewed in Afghan society.

"In Herat society, when the name of someone's wife is used, it is seen as a violation of the man's privacy and dignity," he said. "People feel such shame of their wives' names that they aren't even prepared to use them themselves. Men will say 'my children's mother' or 'my family member.'" Changing that is going to take time, and many men retain powerful prejudices.

Herat resident Wahidollah said Afghan men were sensitive about three things—disrespect shown to their country, their faith and their women. As for those who were insufficiently zealous in upholding their honor on these three matters, he said, "killing such individuals is permissible."

Nasima Hamdard is a reporter in Afghanistan who writes for The Institute for War&Peace Reporting, a nonprofit organization that trains journalists in areas of conflict.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |
| Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph with gusts to 30 mph. ▲ 85° ▼ 77° | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph with gusts to 30 mph. ▲ 85° ▼ 76° | Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. ▲ 85° ▼ 76° | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. ▲ 86° ▼ 76° | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. ▲ 86° ▼ 76° |

Micronesia

| | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------|
| Guam and Rota | Showers | ▲ 85 ▼ 78 |
| Palau | Thunderstorms | ▲ 87 ▼ 76 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲ 89 ▼ 77 |
| Chuuk | Showers | ▲ 87 ▼ 75 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲ 86 ▼ 75 |
| Kosrae | Showers | ▲ 86 ▼ 75 |
| Majuro | Showers | ▲ 83 ▼ 78 |

Around The Globe

| | | |
|----------------|----------------|-----------|
| Auckland | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 63 ▼ 59 |
| Beijing | Sunny | ▲ 47 ▼ 27 |
| Hong Kong | Thunderstorms | ▲ 82 ▼ 72 |
| Honolulu | Showers | ▲ 82 ▼ 74 |
| London | Sunny | ▲ 52 ▼ 44 |
| Los Angeles | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 59 ▼ 45 |
| Manila | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 91 ▼ 80 |
| Melbourne | Thundershowers | ▲ 70 ▼ 57 |
| Miami | Showers | ▲ 82 ▼ 73 |
| New York | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 53 ▼ 44 |
| Osaka | Rain | ▲ 70 ▼ 62 |
| Paris | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 51 ▼ 39 |
| Pusan | Rain | ▲ 70 ▼ 45 |
| Rome | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 66 ▼ 42 |
| Salem | Showers | ▲ 42 ▼ 28 |
| San Francisco | Partly Cloudy | ▲ 56 ▼ 46 |
| Seoul | Showers | ▲ 56 ▼ 33 |
| Tokyo | Rain | ▲ 68 ▼ 61 |
| Washington, DC | Mostly Sunny | ▲ 54 ▼ 47 |

Tides

| Sunrise/Sunset | | | Moonrise/Moonset | | |
|----------------|---------|---------|------------------|----------|----------|
| Today | 6:20 AM | 5:44 PM | Today | 12:03 AM | 12:42 PM |
| Sunday | 6:21 AM | 5:44 PM | Sunday | 12:58 AM | 1:25 PM |
| Monday | 6:21 AM | 5:44 PM | Monday | 1:54 AM | 2:10 PM |
| Tuesday | 6:22 AM | 5:44 PM | Tuesday | 2:53 AM | 2:57 PM |
| Wednesday | 6:22 AM | 5:44 PM | Wednesday | 3:54 AM | 3:47 PM |

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- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 17, 2011

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

C05062 2:10am 2:40am 1, 5

SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)

C05064 4:15am 4:50am 1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

C05070 4:15am 5:45am 1, 5 via ROP

C05070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7

C05068 8:25am 9:15am Daily

C05074 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7

C05076 3:10pm 4:00pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05078 6:50pm 7:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05078 7:00pm 7:50pm 3, 6

C05072 9:55pm 10:45pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7

C05072 10:05pm 10:55pm 3, 6

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287 6:00am 8:35am Daily

DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606 2:10am 6:00am 1

OZ606 2:40am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

OZ604 3:20pm 7:10pm Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608 3:35am 7:05am 4, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701 2:10am 11:15am 1 via ICN

OZ606/701 2:40am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

C05070/191 4:35am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM

DL287/173 6:00am 10:25pm Daily via NRT

C05068/183 8:25am 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM

C05068/183 8:25am 9:40pm 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

C05076/183 3:10pm 9:25pm 2, 5 via GUM

C05076/183 3:10pm 9:40pm 1, 4, 7 via GUM

C05076/193 3:10pm 11:00pm 2, 5 via GUM

C05072/PR111 9:55pm 7:50am 1, 5 via GUM

C05072/PR111 10:05pm 7:50am 3, 6 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721 2:10am 12:00pm 1 via ICN

OZ606/721 2:40am 12:00pm 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

C05076/179 3:05pm 10:25pm 1, 5 via GUM

OZ604/723 3:20pm 10:30pm Daily via ICN

C0180/5071 11:15pm 7:50am+1 1, 5 via GUM

C0184/5071 11:59pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; C2: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency | Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |

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SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

CATHOLIC

Mt. Carmel Cathedral

Sunday Mass: 6am Chamorro, 9am English, 11am Filipino and 6pm English
Monday-Saturday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm Chamorro
Parish office hours:
Monday-Saturday
8am-12pm, 12-1pm, 1-5pm

Korean Center

Sunday: 10:30am
Wednesday: 10am
Thursday-Friday: 8pm
Saturday: 3pm and 7:30pm

Kristo Rai Parish

Sunday-Saturday: 6am
Wednesday: 6am and 6pm (PH Novena 5:45pm)
Friday: 5:30pm praying of Divine Mercy Chaplet; 6pm devotional mass in honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.
Saturday: 6am and 6pm (anticipated)
Sunday Mass: 6am, 8am and 9:30am 6pm Tagalog mass
Parish office hours: (Fr. Celso G. Magbanua) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday 8-11:30am/ 3-5:30pm, Wednesday and Friday 3-5pm.
Telephone no. 285-0273

Santa Soledad Mission Parish

Monday: 6pm
Tuesday: 6pm
Wednesday: 6pm
Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm (Youth mass/ anticipated Sunday mass)
Sunday: 7am and 9am (Children's mass)
Parish office hours: Wednesday and Friday: 8-10am,
Saturday: 4:6pm
Telephone no. 256-4568

Saint Jude Parish

Monday-Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 7am
Sunday: 6am, 8am, 10am
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday 9:30-11:30am, 3:30-5pm
Office is close every Thursday and Saturday
Telephone no. 288-0007

San Antonio Parish

Monday-Friday 6pm
Saturday: 6pm
Sunday: 7am, 9am (Blessing of children)
Parish office hours: Tuesday-Saturday: 8-11:30am, 2-4:45pm
Close on Sunday and Monday

San Francisco de Borja-Rota

Sunday: 6am Chamorro, 8am English
Monday and Tuesday: 6am Chamorro
Wednesday: 6pm English
Thursday: 6am Chamorro
Friday: 6am English
Saturday: 6am Chamorro, 6pm Tagalog
Sunday: anticipated mass

San Isidro-Rota

Sunday: 5am, 8am, 10am
Monday-Friday: 7pm
Saturday: 5am and 7pm

San Jose (Oleai) Parish

Monday-Saturday: 6am daily mass
Monday-Sunday: 3pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
Wednesday: 6pm, mass, exposition of the blessed sacrament
Saturday: 6pm, anticipated Sunday mass
Sunday: 7:30-9am English, 6pm Tagalog mass
Office hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9am-12pm, 2-5pm
Thursday: day off
Friday-Saturday: 8am-12pm, 2-5pm
Telephone no. 234-6991

San Roque Parish

Sunday: 7:30am Chamorro, 9am English
Monday: 6pm English
Tuesday: 6pm English
Wednesday: 6pm English- novena mass to our Lady of San Roque oil
Thursday: 6pm English
Friday: 6pm English- Devotion to the sacred heart of Jesus (First Fridays)
Saturday: 6am English- Our Lady's

SCHEDULE OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES

(Tagalog)

Saturday: 7:45pm (Tagalog)

Sunday: 6:45am (English)

Children Worship Service: Sunday, 9am (English)

Immanuel United Methodist Church

Chalan Kanoa Drive, Chalan Kanoa (east of Town Center and Beach Road, Near Mt. Carmel Cathedral)
Worship Service: 9:00am
Children's Sunday School: 9:00am
Choir Practice: 8:00am
Singspiration: 8:30am
Prayer, Care & Share: Wednesday 7:00pm
Pastor: Millie Carroll 322-6158

San Vicente Parish

Monday-Friday: 6pm,
Saturday: 6pm (First Saturday of every month)
Sunday: 6am anticipated mass, 6pm (Neo Catechumenal community mass), 8pm
Sunday: 6am, 9am, 6pm
Parish office hours: daily 9-11am
Telephone no. 235-8208 or 287-0131

Santa Remedios

Sunday: 8am
Monday: 6pm (1st Mondays cemetery masses at 5:30pm)
Tuesday-Friday: 6pm
Saturday: 6pm-anticipated Sunday mass 8-10pm
Parish office hours: Monday-Friday: 8:30am-12pm

PROTESTANT

Amen Church

Sunday : 10am, 1pm, 5pm Wednesday : 7pm Friday Prayer : 9pm Bible Study : 4pm (Tue) Music Practice : 5pm (Sat) Korean class: 3:30pm (Thu) Visitation : 10am(Fri, Sat) Outreach : 8am (First Sat) Tel. No. 285-2121, 256-2221 Email : oseyo@daum.net

Born Again Christian

(Upper Room Int'l Ministries), Saipan Wednesday Prayer and Healing Night: 8-10:30pm Saturday Tagalog Service: 8-10:30pm Sunday English Service: 9:30-11am Sunday School for Children: 10:11am Sunday Filipino Service: 7-9pm

Calvary Baptist Church, Saipan

Sunday School: 9am Sunday Morning Worship: 10am Sunday Evening Worship: 6pm Wednesday Prayer Service: 7pm Telephone no. 234-6026/27

Chinese Christian Church of Saipan

Worship Services:
Sunday: Chinese and Filipino 9am, English 6pm
Bible Study: Wednesday and Saturday 8pm
Telephone no. 235-8540

Cornerstone Christian Church, Saipan

Morning Service, Sunday, 10:00 am
Evening Service, Sunday, 6:00 pm
Children Sunday School, 10:00am/ 6:00 pm

Prayer Meeting, Wednesday, 7-9 pm
Youth Night of Worship, Friday, 6:30 pm

As Perido Road
Chalan Piao, Saipan MP 96950

Tel. No. (670) 235-8590
Email: cornerstone@cfemcares.org

Episcopal/Anglican Church on Saipan

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Worship Service Sunday: Holy Communion 9:00am
Place: Garapan, Plumeria Road, Call 285-6081 for directions

Grace Christian Assembly, Saipan

Sunday Worship Service: 9:11am
Sunday school/ Children's church 9am (nursery available during Sunday service)

GBI Classes: 4-6pm

Prayer Meeting: 6am Tuesday GCA Kagman, Wednesday Navy Hill, Thursday San Antonio
Home Cell Bible Study: 7pm (Through out the week)

Telephone no. 322-5680

Iglesia Ni Cristo, Saipan

Wednesday: 7:45pm (English)
Thursday: 5:30am (English); 7:45 pm

Sunday: 6:30 pm -9pm

Monday: 8 pm -10pm (Prayer Meeting)

Thursday: 8pm-10pm (Cell Groups)

Saipan Church of Christ

Sunday Bible Class: 9am
Sunday Worship: 10am
Sunday Worship English: 10-11am
Sunday Worship Tagalog: 6-7pm
Thursday Bible Study: 7pm

Immanuel Methodist Church

(Filipino Congregation)
Sunday: 7:00am-Choir Rehearsal
8:00am-Church Service (Tagalog)
9:15am-Sunday School
Wednesday: 6:30pm, home group
8:00pm-Prayer Meeting
Thursday: 7:30pm-Choir Practice (Church)

Saipan Community Church

(Sunday Services)
Palau Service: 7:30am-9am
English Service: 10am-11:30am
Chukese Service: 1pm-2:30pm
Filipino Service: 5:00pm-7:00pm

Seventh-Day Adventist Church, Saipan

(Saturday Church Services)
Sabbath School Program: 9-10am
Lesson Study: 10-10:40am
Divine Service: 11-12pm
Visitation: 3-4pm
Adventist Youth Program: 4:30-5:30pm
Sundown Worship: 6-7pm

First Baptist Church Koblerville

Sunday services:
Sunday school 9:00am
Morning worship 10:00am
Evening service 6:00pm
Wednesday evening bible study 7:00pm

Chinese services

Sunday morning 10:00am

Sunday evening 7:00pm

Everyone is warmly welcome to attend our worship services. Transportation is readily available to anyone who needs a ride to our church.

Telephone No: 285-4661/2

Thy Word Ministries Saipan

Faith Center
Phone 234-0209
New Christian Charismatic Church Service located in Chalan Pao, Beach Road in the Sablan building on the 2nd floor above Subway Sandwiches.
Senior Pastors: George & Gail Kamakahi
Asst. Pastors: Eric & Penny Sakaguchi

Service Times

Sunday 10:00am Worship Service
Sunday 7pm Discipleship Classes
Tuesday 10:00am Bible Studies
Tuesday 6:00pm Intercessory Prayer
Tuesday 7:00pm Music Practice
Wednesday 7:00pm Mid-Week Service
Saturday 10:00am Evangelism

Upper Room International Ministries

Sunday 5:30am-6:30am
Morning prayer
7am-9am English service
7am-9am Sunday school
10am-12noon English service, Koblerville
Wednesday 7pm-9pm Prayer meeting
Saturday 7pm-9pm Tagalog service

Venue: Jason Presbyterian Church
Gualo Rai, Saipan

Victory Chapel Christian

Fellowship Church
Sunday School: 9:30am
Sunday AM Worship: 10:30am
Sunday PM Worship: 7:00am
Wed Worship: 7:30pm
Prayer 45 min. Prior to Service Times
Morning Prayer: 6-8am M-S

Victorious Christian Church

(Formerly God's Victorious Army)
Sunday 8:30am to 10:30am - Worship Service
Monday 7:00 pm - Women's Fellowship
Tuesday nights - Home cellgroup
Wednesday - 7:30pm to 9:00pm Mid Week Service
Friday 7:30pm to 9:00pm Prayer Meeting
Saturday nights - Praise and worship practice
Last Friday of the month - Overnight praying meeting
Pastor Brendon Perez - Tel# 2359246

Saipan Christian Church

Sunday: 7:30am-10am

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Nov. 19, 1999

USDA offers incentives program to farmers

The United States Department of Agriculture/Natural Resources Conservation service (USDA/NRCS) is now accepting applications for a program that will grant farmers of up to 75 percent of dollar share cost to help them address concerns on irrigation and animal waste. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program, which is being carried out in partnership with the Farm Service Agency and the local Soil And Water Conservation Districts, can be availed through the Commodity Credit Corporation. Only landowners who have control over their lands for a minimum of five years are qualified to apply for the program.

\$400K provided for CNMI's financial management

The government has received some \$393,500 in federal grants for the initial phase of implementation of a financial management program intended to improve efficiency, enhance employee productivity and maximize taxpayers' dollars in the public sector. Dan Nielsen, implementation leader of the Financial Management Improvement Plan or FMIP, said the money will be used to meet the needs of key departments and agencies under the program adopted by the Tenorio administration last year. From the total amount, \$100,000 in technical assistance will be set aside for the Public School System to train its own staff in maximizing the utilization of the financial management system.

Nov. 19, 2001

CUC acts fast on water problems

Reacting to a statement that its drinking water for Saipan violated mandated standards, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation said it is exerting effort to address the problem at once whenever water samples test positive for bacterial contamination. "The field tests are quick. If they tell us that there is not enough chlorine (a positive test result), the Lab Supervisor radios the Water Treatment crews who immediately go to the site and boost treatment," said Pamela Mathis, corporate communications advisor of the public utility firm. The following day, Mathis said, three more tests are conducted at a water location where a positive test was detected. The tests are conducted at the same spot, and at locations upstream or downpipe.

Senate relents on NMC nominees

Besides the confirmation of Robert Naraja as associate judge, the Senate on Thursday also confirmed the appointments of four new members to the Board of Regents of the Northern Marianas College. Relenting from its hardline stance, the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations approved the appointments of Avelina C. Cabrera, Galvin DeLeon Guerrero, Vicente Seman and Margarita O. Taitano. Before this, the committee had threatened not to confirm the appointments of Seman and Taitano as a retaliatory move against Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio for vetoing the dialysis projects for Tinian and Rota and the percentage allocation of Federal Highway funds.

Nov. 19, 2002

Govt owes CHC manpower agencies more than \$500K

The CNMI government has been delayed—for almost three months now—in paying its contracted manpower agencies that supply nursing staff at the Commonwealth Health Center, prompting at least one of the companies to begin putting its staff on vacation. Juan T. Guerrero, president of Paras Enterprises, the longest serving staffing agency for the CHC, confirmed in an interview yesterday that the government owes his company some \$400,000 or \$500,000 to include all other outstanding fees with other government offices. "Well, I won't hide that they owe me money, plenty of money. This week, we had a payroll, so that makes it five payroll cycles. I haven't received payment from them," Guerrero said when asked about the issue.

NMI dips toes in China's tourism market

After his meeting with several Chinese travel agents and representatives of two major Chinese airlines, Lt. Gov. Diego T. Benavente expressed confidence that the CNMI could soon be seeing an increase in the number of tourists from mainland China. Benavente, together with a Marianas Visitors Authority contingent, had just arrived from China, where the CNMI participated in the recently concluded 4th China International Travel Mart in Shanghai, China, that was held from November 12 to 15.

Maharlika

Another Filipino now under ICE custody

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Another male Filipino worker has been taken into the custody of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Philippine Consulate General

legal officer Dyan Miranda confirmed with the *Saipan Tribune* that their office was notified by ICE about Marlon Hernandez, who was taken into custody yesterday.

Miranda said in a phone interview that they have emailed

ICE to coordinate their visit to Hernandez, who they found out is being assisted by the Federal Ombudsman's Office.

No other information is available about Hernandez, who is now the fourth Filipino worker in detention due to lack of legal

status in the CNMI.

Miranda said that Elpidio Macaraeg, who has been in detention for a month and has been on island for 26 years, and Celia Dela Cruz, who was taken into custody early this month, are both "awaiting final schedule from ICE" given their final order of removal.

Another Filipino, Crizaldo Valdez, is "awaiting his green card petition" and has no intention to seek help from the Consulate, added Miranda.

Consul General Medardo Macaraig said in a separate interview that many Filipinos with immigration cases "are released on their own recognizance."

"Although they have time to go to the Consulate to ask for help, it would be quite difficult to provide assistance if their case is purely immigration," he said.

According to Macaraig, some

40 Filipinos have already submitted written requests seeking repatriation assistance, with some of the requests approved just yesterday.

Nine more individuals who are members of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration have asked for repatriation assistance from their office, said welfare officer Julie Fabian.

Of the nine, Fabian said one was already sent home while two more have already been booked. The others, she said, are already "good as approved."

"The reason for the delay is that we are waiting for these individuals to confirm their schedule," she said.

Macaraig said the numbers are "still not in the alarming proportions that we expected and feared." "But who knows? We still have one week to go before the deadline," he added.

Macaraig reiterated that the Department of Foreign Affairs in Manila cannot provide funding assistance out of the overseas Filipino workers' legal assistance fund for immigration cases.

"Definitely not the legal assistance fund. After all, those are taxes paid by people and we should spend that according to law. The law says legal assistance is only extended for labor and criminal cases that are labor-related," he said.

With many advices being given out by parties other than the Consulate, Macaraig stressed that Filipinos should take responsibility for their actions based on such advice.

"You should be responsible for the choices that you make. We are mature enough to determine what's best for us," he said.

Free immigration forum today with Laguatan

» USP4GG distances self from fundraising show

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

There will be an Immigration Information Presentation and Open Forum today, Nov. 19, from 11am to 2pm, at the lobby of the Marianas Business Plaza (the former Nauru Building). Attorney Ted Laguatan, an immigration lawyer and legal counsel of the U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance from California, will be making a presentation via Skype. Admission is free.

U.S. Pinoys for Good Governance also emphasized that it is not soliciting cash or selling tickets to raise funds for Laguatan's proposed visit to the CNMI. That plan to bring Laguatan to Saipan is on hold for now, USP4GG said, so they are not involved with any



Laguatan

fundraising efforts.

Some Filipinos who are organizing a fundraising show are telling people to buy tickets for the show to help raise money for foreign workers who will be needing legal assistance when they go out of status after Nov. 27.

A Garapan resident, who wished to remain anonymous, said in an interview that she was in a beauty parlor when a beautician offered her a ticket for "Showtime 2011: A spectacular show for a cause" on Nov. 26 which features "Saipan Divas."

When asked what the fundraising was for, the beautician said it was to allow Laguatan to fly to Saipan and provide legal assistance to those who will be out of status after Nov. 27.

"We would need at least \$5,000," the beautician told the Garapan resident, adding that the money will also be used to bring Laguatan here.

The resident, who bought the

\$5 ticket, wanted to validate the information and asked USP4GG CNMI Chapter if the information was true, which they said was not.

In fact, the resident found out that Laguatan will be the presenter at the forum only via Skype.

"I feel victimized," she said. "Instead of helping, they are demoralizing all the more these Filipino workers."

When the resident asked who is organizing the show, the beautician named several foreign worker leaders, including United Workers Movement president Rabby Syed and Dekada Movement president Boni Sagana.

Syed and Sagana in separate interviews said the show is an initiative of several foreign workers who attend the "Occupy USCIS" peaceful vigil.

Syed said the United Workers Movement believes that the show organizers intend to help foreign workers, which is why they believe "it's a good cause" and support it.

Sagana, for his part, said he does not know who comprise the organizers of the show and have no idea how they will account for the proceeds of the show.

Philippines issues arrest warrant for Arroyo

By HRVOJE HRANJSKI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A Philippine court issued an arrest warrant Friday for former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo on electoral fraud charges as part of a high-profile tug of war to prevent any chance of her turning fugitive.

Arroyo denies any wrongdoing and accuses the government of violating her rights by stopping her from leaving the Philippines for foreign medical treatment for a bone ailment. Her lawyer, Ferdinand Topacio, said the government had filed charges with "indecent haste" in what he called an "emerging pattern of persecution."

The Supreme Court earlier Friday upheld her right to travel, but a lower court, where the formal charges were filed, later issued a warrant of arrest that effectively bars her from leaving.

Arroyo was recovering in the hospital since her failed attempt to leave the country Tuesday,



Protesters display placards against former Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo as they picket the Philippine Supreme Court in Manila Friday Nov. 18, 2011.

and it was doubtful she would be immediately hauled to jail given her medical condition.

"The order for the warrant of arrest has been given to law enforcers," said clerk of court Joel Pelicano. "The lawyers have all legal options. Hospital arrest is possible. The arresting officers will look at her

health if that is needed."

In a drama that has galvanized the Philippines, Arroyo, sitting in a wheelchair and wearing a head and neck brace, was turned back Tuesday night from boarding a flight out of Manila. Authorities said she was still under investigation and might become a fugitive.

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Thirty-seven Filipinos are expected to graduate from the Domestic Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic course offered by the Philippine Consulate General through the Philippine Overseas Labor Office today.

The class, which is part of the second batch, began the course on Nov. 5 under the technical supervision of James R. Abuy of Pacific Islands Club.

They will have the Business Management Seminar component today at the Filipino Workers Resource Center before the students officially graduate. The seminar will be conducted by Jun D. Bañaderas, Jr.

Of the 37 students, nine are women, labor representative Carmelina Velasquez said in an

interview yesterday.

"It goes to show that women are really becoming more independent-minded," Velasquez told *Saipan Tribune*. "They want to acquire more skills because they realize that it's very important to know more things."

Velasquez noted that the course is only a "stepping stone" for more possibilities.

"These are just basic knowledge about domestic refrigeration and aircon mechanic. It will be up to them if they want to pursue advanced courses and perhaps get licensed in the future," she emphasized.

Asked if the course will be offered again next year, Velasquez replied, "Why not? If there's a demand [we will offer the course again]."

The Domestic Refrigeration and Aircon Mechanic – Batch 2

is one of the three skills upgrading and livelihood courses for the fourth quarter of 2011.

The Fruit and Vegetable Carving – Batch 3 class was conducted for four Saturdays in October by Eduardo M. Elenzano.

The Basic Computer Operations 1 – Batch 54 under Zaldy P. Quebral and Marilyn D. Quebral is expected to conclude tomorrow, Nov. 20.

In other news, Velasquez said their office will be busy toward the end of the year as they are scheduled to inventory their assets.

According to Velasquez, their office annually conducts an inventory of what they have at the Filipino Workers Resource Center, which serves as venue for their events and activities, including the livelihood courses they offer every quarter.

Philippine govt charges ex-President with poll fraud

By HRVOJE HRANJSKI
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Former Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo was charged with electoral fraud Friday in a move that could pave the way for her arrest, after the government rushed the case in court to keep her from leaving the country.

The formal charges, which carry a penalty of 40 years imprisonment, were filed by the Commission on Election at the Pasay Regional Trial Court in Manila, a court official told The Associated Press.

Judge Jesus Mupas will now decide whether to issue an arrest warrant, said Elections Commission chair Sixto Brillantes. He said he also asked for a court order barring Arroyo's travel.

Arroyo on Tuesday tried to leave the country with her husband, saying she is seeking med-

ical treatment abroad for a bone ailment, but was stopped at the Manila airport because she was still under investigation.

She has denied any wrongdoing, and Arroyo legal spokesman Raul Lambino said Friday the case against her has been fabricated.

"This is a high form of injustice," Lambino said.

Arroyo lawyer Ferdinand Tapacio deplored the "indecent haste" and criticized what he said was the government's "emerging pattern of persecution."

In the meantime, Lambino said his client will await a decision by the Supreme Court on Friday on their petition questioning the government's travel ban on Arroyo.

The court last week granted her a temporary clearance to travel, but the government still refused to let her go, with Justice Secretary Leila de Lima saying she may be seeking political asylum abroad.

The charges stem from allegations that Arroyo conspired with officials to tamper with results of 2007 congressional polls to favor her candidates.

Now that charges have been filed, Arroyo likely faces arrest, Sen. Francis Escudero said.

Arroyo was recovering in the hospital since her failed attempt to leave the country Tuesday, and it was doubtful she would be immediately hauled to jail even if the arrest warrant was issued.

After stepping down last year, Arroyo, 64, was elected to the House of Representatives and immediately faced at least half a dozen complaints, also alleging she diverted state funds for her campaign effort and benefited from foreign contracts.

The Justice Department is still investigating the other complaints.

Her successor and staunch critic, President Benigno Aquino III, was overwhelm-

Electoral sabotage charge a mockery—Arroyo lawyer

By NIÑA CALLEJA
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

MANILA, Philippines—The lawyers of former president Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and her husband Jose Miguel called the filing of the electoral sabotage case against her a "moro-moro" or mockery as the process by which it was carried out was done in haste.

Arroyos' lawyer Ferdinand Tapacio and legal spokesperson Raul Lambino were seen separately entering the St. Luke's Medical Center in Taguig City where the former president has been confined.

Both of them said they would take up with Arroyo their next legal move against the case, which was seen as a way to stop Arroyo from traveling abroad.

Topacio said it would be impossible for a judge to render a decision within the day, but should that happen, the Comelec and the DOJ would have made a complete mockery of the judicial system.

"This recommendation of the Comelec has to be presented in court, which will carry out its own assessment and analysis to judicially determine the existence of a probable cause," Topacio told reporters.

He said it would be completely surprising if the judge issued a hold departure order within the day.

"The evidence is so thick that even the two commissioners (of the Comelec) were not able to finish reading it," Topacio said.

Topacio said he was worried how he will break the news to Arroyo since her condition now was "delicate."

SC denies motion to ban Arroyo health travel

MANILA, Philippines—The Supreme Court on Friday denied a motion for reconsideration that the Aquino administration has filed to continue barring former Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo from the leaving the country.

At the same time, court spokesman Midas Marquez said the high tribunal ordered Justice Secretary Leila de Lima to explain in 10 days why she should not be held in contempt for disrespecting the court when she ignored its order to lift the travel ban.

Midas in press conference said the Temporary Restraining Order against the enforcement of the watchlist that De Lima issued against Arroyo and her husband, Jose Miguel Arroyo, was in "full force and in effect."

The high tribunal on Tuesday ordered President Benigno Aquino's administration—which wants to put Arroyo on trial on allegations of graft and election fraud—to allow the ex-president to travel overseas for treatment.

It ruled the travel ban unconstitutional because Arroyo and her husband had not yet been charged with any crime.



Former Philippine President and current member of Congress Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, center, is assisted by her aides as they leave the airport in Manila, Philippines, Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2011. AP

But the government defied the court and she was prevented from boarding her flight to Singapore later that day. Ar-

royo then checked into a Manila hospital.

She had been driven to the airport in an ambulance, wear-

ingly elected on promises to rid the Philippines of corruption and has said he wants to start with Arroyo.

Arroyo would be the second Philippine president to face tri-

al, after her predecessor, Joseph Estrada, was toppled in a 2001 military-backed revolt on corruption charges and sentenced to life. He was later pardoned by Arroyo.

erment was not violating any law and that Arroyo must be stopped from fleeing possible prosecution.

Arroyo's spokeswoman Elena Bautista Horn said the former president may attempt to leave the country again Friday.

"If the doctors allow it, it's an option," Horn told GMA television.

"We will hold them (the government) responsible if something bad happens to my boss," Horn added.

She also expressed fear that the Aquino government would rush the filing of criminal charges against Arroyo in court to justify its bid to have the Supreme Court uphold the travel ban.

Arroyo, 64, ruled the country for more than nine years until last year, when she won a seat in the lower house of parliament.

Her arch-critic Aquino won a landslide presidential election on an anti-corruption platform and has vowed to bring Arroyo to justice, but has faced repeated setbacks to his campaign.

In one of the most high-profile blows, the Supreme Court ruled in December last year that a "truth commission" Aquino set up specifically to investigate Arroyo was unconstitutional. (AFP, INQUIRER.net)

ing a neck brace to support her spine, which she says is weakened by a rare bone disease.

De Lima has said the gov-

US help in the AFP's operations against terrorists in the country's south, citing in particular US assistance against the Abu Sayyaf bandits.

He said the AFP would continue its capability upgrade program, and was in fact already expecting equipment to be delivered in late 2011 and early next year.

Recent tensions
There have been tensions in recent months over China's enforcement of its claim in areas of the Spratlys claimed by the Philippines and Vietnam, including the cutting of cables on survey ships, threats to ram some vessels and breaches of airspace by military aircraft.

Oban said the partnership between the Philippine and US military affirmed their longstanding defense cooperation and highlighted the two countries' commitment to maintain peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific.

He also acknowledged the

Army: 62 audio/visual systems; and for the Navy: one landing craft utility, three multipurpose attack craft, three Jacinto class patrol vessel upgrade (weapons system), 20 units of 2 1/2-ton truck troop carrier, 20 units of 1 1/4-ton truck troop carrier, 105 units of 20-watts radio (vehicle).

For 2012, the following will be delivered:

For the Air Force: four combat utility helicopters and six UH-1H helicopter acquisition (refurbished); for the Navy: two coast watch station upgrade; and for the Army: one lot C41/GIS, 335 units of rocket launcher light and 100 units of 81mm mortars.

Obama: East Asia Summit key to maritime disputes

NUSA DUA (AFP)—President Barack Obama, who will become the first US leader to attend the East Asia Summit Saturday, hailed the grouping as the top forum for tackling seething regional maritime disputes.

China has balked at directly discussing territorial rows including rival claims by regional nations over the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea) in such a meeting, but Washington says the security of vital trade routes deserves serious dialogue.

The summit "can be the premier arena for us to be able to work together on a wide range of issues — maritime security or nonproliferation," Obama said Friday.

The US president also said the grouping of 10 Southeast Asian nations plus Australia, China, India, Japan, South Korea, New Zealand, the United States and Russia was also key to developing cooperation on disaster relief and aid.

Obama spoke as he met Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh in the first of a string of one-on-one talks on the eve of the summit, which includes sessions with the leaders of Thailand and the Philippines.

Singh told Obama that he was happy to report "that there are today no irritants whatsoever in our working together in a multiplicity of areas, both bilateral, regional and global issues."

Obama, who has irritated China during a Pacific tour designed to highlight a new US push in Asia, visited India a year ago and many analysts in Washington see the country as a counterweight to China's rise to superpower status.

US officials say that while the East Asia Summit is not a tribunal for deciding rival territorial claims, issues like the West Philippine Sea dispute deserve an airing at regional meetings.

AFP welcomes US pledge of assistance

By DJ YAP
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

The Armed Forces on Thursday said the pledge of continued military assistance from the United States which was made by US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton should help the Philippines fend off aggressors in the West Philippine Sea (South China Sea).

The AFP said it welcomed the US commitment to ensure that the collective defense facilities and infrastructures of both countries would be sufficient "to deter internal as well as external aggression."

"Sure enough, this will complement our maritime and interdiction operations in the West Philippine Sea," AFP Chief General Eduardo Oban Jr. said in a statement.

Clinton's two-day visit came at a time of rising tension in the waters of the West Philippine Sea (also called South China Sea) over the Spratlys, a chain of reputedly resource-rich islets and reefs near Palawan.

The Spratlys archipelago is claimed wholly or in part by the Philippines, China, Vietnam, Malaysia, Brunei and Taiwan.

Recent tensions

There have been tensions in recent months over China's enforcement of its claim in areas of the Spratlys claimed by the Philippines and Vietnam, including the cutting of cables on survey ships, threats to ram some vessels and breaches of airspace by military aircraft.

Oban said the partnership between the Philippine and US military affirmed their longstanding defense cooperation and highlighted the two countries' commitment to maintain peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific.

He also acknowledged the

Samu't Sari



NEWLYWEDS
Sharee and Jawn Joyner were married last week at the San Vicente Church.

◀ CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



RUBBERNECKERS

People watch as firefighters try to douse the fire at the former Stardust Nightclub in Chalan Kanoa-Chalan Piao on Thursday, the second of three fires that broke out that day.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO



The Joyner family (Keoni not pictured).

◀ CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



VOLUNTEER EFFORT

The Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's management and staff wishes to thank the group of 15G'S Lawn Care for the ground cleaning services they provided on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011. A newly established company, they volunteer to maintain the ground cleaning of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library as part of their community services. From left to right: John Pelisamen, Joe Taitano, Freddy Peliamen, Valentine Mangarero, and Sohn Macaranas.

◀ CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



The newlyweds have their picture taken with family members.

◀ CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



EXCHANGE PROGRAM

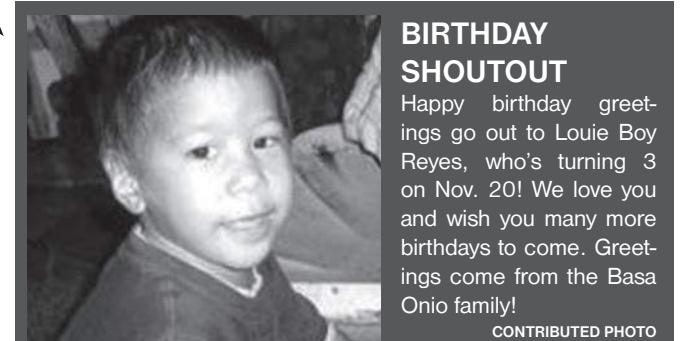
Saipan Southern High School principal Jesse Tudela, center, poses with officials and representatives of the Global Education Oriented School during the first cultural exchange program on campus Thursday. The two schools have joined forces in holding a big concert next year to raise funds for the Manta Band's Olympic performance in 2012.

MONETH G. DEPOSA



Mr. & Mrs. Joyner pose with UFO basketball coaches and players.

◀ CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Louie Boy Reyes, who's turning 3 on Nov. 20! We love you and wish you many more birthdays to come. Greetings come from the Basa Onio family!

◀ CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Business

Is economy best birth control? US births dip again

By MIKE STOBBE

AP MEDICAL WRITER

U.S. births dropped for the third straight year—especially for young mothers—and experts think money worries are the reason.

A federal report released Thursday showed declines in the birth rate for all races and most age groups. Teens and women in their early 20s had the most dramatic dip, to the lowest rates since record-keeping began in the 1940s. Also, the rate of cesarean sections stopped going up for the first time since 1996.

Experts suspected the economy drove down birth rates in 2008 and 2009 as women put off having children. With the 2010 figures, suspicion has turned into certainty.

"I don't think there's any doubt now that it was the recession. It could not be anything else," said Carl Haub, a demographer with the Population Reference Bureau, a Washington, D.C.-based research organization. He was not involved in the new report.

U.S. births hit an all-time high in 2007, at more than 4.3 million. Over the next two years, the number dropped to about 4.2 million and then about 4.1 million.

Last year, it was down to just over 4 million, according to the new report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

For teens, birth rates dropped 9 percent from 2009. For women in their early 20s, they fell 6 percent. For unmarried mothers, the drop was 4 percent. Experts believe the downward trend is tied to the economy, which officially was in a recession from December 2007 until June 2009 and remains weak. The theory is that women with money worries—especially younger women—feel they can't afford to start a family or add to it.

That's true of Mary Garrick, 27, an advertising executive in Columbus, Ohio. She and her husband, David, married in 2008 and hoped to start having children quickly, in part because men in his family have died in their 40s. But David, 33, was



laid off that year from his nursing job and again last year.

He's working again, but worries about the economy linger. "It kind of made us cautious about life decisions, like having a family. It's definitely something that affected us," she said.

Kristi Elsberry, a married 27-

year-old mother of two, had her tubes tied in 2009 after she had trouble finding a job and she and her husband grew worried about the financial burden of any additional children. "Kids are so expensive, especially in this day and age. And neither of us think anything's going to get better," said Elsberry, of Leland, N.C.

Chu: Solyndra loan based on merits, not politics

WASHINGTON (AP)—An unapologetic Energy Secretary Steven Chu defended a half-billion-dollar federal loan to a solar-panel manufacturer that went belly up, even as he told a House committee Thursday he was unaware of dozens of key details that led to the debacle over Solyndra Inc.

Under hours of hostile questioning from Republicans on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, Chu declined several opportunities to say he was sorry, but acknowledged that in hindsight the deal was "extremely unfortunate" and "regrettable."

"Certainly knowing what I

know now, we'd say 'no,'" Chu said during a daylong hearing before the energy panel's subcommittee on investigations. "But you don't make decisions fast-forwarding two years in the future and then go back. I wish I could do that."

Rep. Cliff Stearns, R-Fla., chairman of the subcommittee, said after the hearing that Chu should be fired.

"I just think he has failed the test. The fact that he's unaware of so many things makes me think that he's not the best person for the position," Stearns said.

Chu insisted that politics played no role in his depart-

In this Wednesday, Aug. 6, 2009 file photo, Nurse Jozie Kovar, checks the heartbeat of one of eight babies at Jamestown, N.D. Hospital.

Many of the report's findings are part of a trend and not surprising. There was a continued decline in the percentage of premature births at less than 37 weeks. And—as in years past—birth rates fell in younger women but rose a little in women 40 and older, who face a closing biological window for having children and may be more worried about that than the economy.

But a few of the findings did startle experts.

One involved a statistic called the total fertility rate. In essence, it tells how many children a woman can be expected to have if current birth rates continue. That figure was 1.9 children last year. In most years, it's more like 2.1.

GM chief says public is past anger over bailout

DETROIT (AP)—The American public has gotten past its animosity toward General Motors for taking a government bailout in 2009, the company's top executive said Thursday.

Chairman and CEO Dan Akerson said a poll taken last summer for GM by Washington public opinion firm Peter Hart Research Associates shows that more than 70 percent of Americans have a positive opinion of the company. When the same poll was taken in July of 2009, more than 70 percent had a negative opinion, Akerson said.

"I think America loves a competitor. I think General Motors, Chevrolet in particular, is part of Americana," Akerson said during an appearance at the Detroit Economic Club.

In 2009, GM, saddled with high debt and expensive labor costs, needed \$49.5 billion in government loans to survive a trip through bankruptcy court.

The U.S. government got a stake in the restructured com-

pany, part of which was sold in an initial public stock offering about one year ago on Nov. 18, 2010. The government's remaining 500 million shares would have to sell for around \$53 per share for the U.S. to break even. Such a sale probably won't come anytime soon. GM shares are trading around one-third less than the \$33 IPO price.

The summer before the IPO, then-GM Chairman and CEO Ed Whitacre said government ownership was hurting the company's sales. Whitacre said GM didn't want to be known as "Government Motors."

But Akerson said on Thursday that the new GM is now making money and has passed that stage.

"I do think that we've kind of gotten over that," he said.

GM made a net profit of just over \$7.1 billion in the first nine months of the year.

Akerson said the government doesn't get involved in running GM. But he's concerned about government pay limits

for companies that took bailout money. GM, he said, won't be able to give bonuses to its 25 highest-paid executives—even though it could make \$8 billion or \$9 billion this year.

"We've got some very, very good people that could do well at other companies who are doing this one for the home team," he said. Akerson pinned the drop in GM's stock price on the broader economy, not automaker's performance. Shares of General Motors Co. were down 96 cents, or 4.2 percent, to \$21.69 in afternoon trading Thursday. They're down about 41 percent for the year, slightly worse than the 40 percent drop in shares of Ford Motor Co.

Akerson also said GM will take actions to right its money-losing European operations.

He referred to French competitor Peugeot Citroen SA's plan to cut 6,000 jobs because of flat demand in Europe, although he stopped short of saying there would be plant closures or layoffs at GM.

What happened to Solyndra

Key events in the rise and fall of the Fremont, Calif., solar panel manufacturer founded in 2005, now under investigation by Congress:

2006

Dec. Solyndra applies for federally guaranteed loan under Bush administration

2008

March Receives conditional \$535 million Dept. of Energy loan; must raise \$198 million more in private equity

2009

Sept. 4 Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Vice President Joe Biden (via satellite) at Solyndra factory ground breaking announce final approval of loan

2010

March Auditors raise doubts about Solyndra's "ability to continue as going concern"

May 25 President Barack Obama visits Solyndra; touts it as model for his clean energy program

June Solyndra cancels plans for \$300 million initial public offering

July 27 Brian Harrison replaces founder Chris Gronet as CEO

Nov. 3 Harrison announces layoffs, consolidation of manufacturing a day after 2010 mid-term elections

2011

Feb. Energy Dept. helps Solyndra refinance debt; private investors commit to additional \$75 million with stipulation that they'd be repaid first in case of

Aug. Solyndra, Energy Dept. discuss second debt restructuring; but DOE determines it is not feasible

Aug. 31 Solyndra announces it is filing for Chapter 11 bankruptcy; 1,100 workers laid off

Sept. 8 FBI agents, DOE investigators raid Solyndra, executives' homes

Sept. 23 Solyndra executives invoke the Fifth Amendment at House Energy and Commerce committee hearing investigating the bankruptcy

Oct. 14 New document released in congressional investigation shows DOE was convinced it was on solid legal ground with Solyndra loan

Nov. 16 Solyndra fails to get an acceptable buyer by deadline; auction of assets delayed until Jan. 19

Nov. 17 Secretary Chu testifies at House committee hearing that White House didn't contact him to make political decision on Solyndra, defends action on loan

© 2011 MCT
Source: San Jose Mercury News, AP, Reuters

Solyndra, of Fremont, Calif., was the first renewable-energy company to receive a loan guarantee under the 2009 stimulus law, and the Obama administration frequently touted it as a model for its clean energy program.

Chu attended a 2009 groundbreaking when the loan was announced, and President Barack Obama visited the company's headquarters last year.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Congress about to kill high-speed train program

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House voted Thursday to kill funds for President Barack Obama's signature high-speed rail program, but the initiative may have some life in it still. Republican lawmakers are claiming credit for killing the program. But billions of dollars still in the pipeline will ensure work will continue on some projects. And it's still possible money from another transportation grant program can be steered to high-speed trains. Obama had requested \$8 billion in fiscal 2012 for the program and \$53 billion over six years.

Oil below \$99 as trader eye weak Europe economy

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices hovered below \$99 a barrel Friday in Asia amid concern Europe's debt crisis will undermine the continent's economic growth and crude demand. Benchmark crude for December delivery was down 15 cents at \$98.67 a barrel at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. The contract fell \$3.77 to settle at \$98.82 in New York on Thursday. Brent crude for January delivery was down 7 cents at \$108.15 a barrel on the ICE Futures Exchange in London.

Nation

Occupy protesters march nationwide; 300 arrested

NEW YORK (AP)—Occupy

Wall Street protesters clogged streets and tied up traffic around the U.S. on Thursday to mark two months since the movement's birth and signal they aren't ready to quit, despite the breakup of many of their encampments by police. Hundreds of people were arrested, most of them in New York.

The demonstrations—which took place in cities including Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Boston, Washington and Portland, Ore.—were for the most part peaceful. Most of the arrests were for blocking streets, and the traffic disruptions were brief.

Chanting “All day, all week, shut down Wall Street,” more than 1,000 protesters gathered near the New York Stock Exchange and sat down in several intersections. Helmeted police officers broke up some of the gatherings, and operations at the stock market were

not disrupted.

As darkness fell, a coalition of unions and progressive groups joined Occupy demonstrators in staging rallies at landmark bridges in several U.S. cities to protest joblessness.

In New York, a crowd of several thousand people, led by banner-carrying members of the Service Employees International Union, jammed Manhattan's Foley Square and then marched peacefully across the Brooklyn Bridge on a pedestrian promenade.

As they walked, a powerful light projected the slogan “We are the 99 percent”—a reference to the Americans who aren't super-rich—on the side of a nearby skyscraper. Police officers dressed in wind breakers, rather than riot gear, arrested at least two dozen people who walked out onto the bridges' roadway but otherwise let the marchers pass without incident.

Several weeks ago, an attempt to march across the bridge drew the first significant international attention to the Occupy movement as more than 700 people were arrested.

Thursday's protests came two days after police raided and demolished the encampment at lower Manhattan's Zuccotti Park that had served as headquarters of the Occupy movement and as demonstrators and union allies tried to regain their momentum.

“This is a critical moment for the movement given what happened the other night,” said demonstrator Paul Knick, a software engineer from Montclair, N.J. “It seems like there's a concerted effort to stop the movement, and I'm here to make sure that doesn't happen.”

At least 300 people were arrested in New York. Some were bloodied during the arrests. One man was taken into custody for

throwing liquid, possibly vinegar, into the faces of several police officers, authorities said. Many demonstrators were carrying vinegar as an antidote for pepper spray.

A police officer, Matthew Walters, needed 20 stitches on his hand after he was hit with a piece of thrown glass, police said.

In Los Angeles, about 500 sympathizers marched downtown between the Bank of America tower and Wells Fargo Plaza, chanting, “Banks got bailed out, we got sold out!” More than two dozen people were arrested.

Police arrested 21 demonstrators in Las Vegas, and 20 were led away in plastic handcuffs in Portland, Ore., for sitting down on a bridge. At least a dozen were arrested in St. Louis in the evening after they sat down cross-legged and locked arms in an attempt to block a bridge over the Mississippi River. More were handcuffed for blocking bridges in Philadelphia and Minneapolis.

A day of protests

Some of the U.S. cities where events are planned on Nov. 17 for a national day of action by Occupy Wall Street protesters joined by unions and liberal groups to call for more jobs and better economic conditions:



Chronology of the Occupy movement

July 13 Canadian anti-consumerist magazine Adbusters issues a call to occupy Wall Street

Oct. 15 Global Day of Action; protests in more than 80 countries; occupations spread

Aug. 30 Anonymous, a hacktivist group, releases video on the Internet in support of occupation

Oct. 21 About 100 occupiers removed by police from tents in Melbourne, Australia; later, camps in Oakland, Calif., Boston, Atlanta, elsewhere are broken up by police

Sept. 17 Nearly 1,000 people begin occupation of Zuccotti Park in New York's financial district

Oct. 1 More than 700 protesters arrested for marching across the Brooklyn Bridge, blocking traffic

Source: American Dream Movement, Mother Jones

Graphic: Judy Treble © 2011 MCT

The oldest old: Reaching 90 more likely than ever

WASHINGTON (AP)—The rolls of America's oldest old are surging: Nearly 2 million now are 90 or over, nearly triple their numbers of just three decades ago.

It's not all good news. They're more likely than the merely elderly to live in poverty and to have disabilities, creating a new challenge to already strained retiree income and health care programs.

First-ever census data on the 90-plus population highlight America's ever-increasing life spans, which are redefining what it means to be old.

Joined by graying baby boomers, the oldest old are projected

to increase from 1.9 million to 8.7 million by midcentury—making up 2 percent of the total U.S. population and one in 10 older Americans. That's a big change from over a century ago, when fewer than 100,000 people reached 90.

Demographers attribute the increases mostly to better nutrition and advances in medical care. Still, the longer life spans present additional risks for disabilities and chronic conditions such as arthritis, diabetes and Alzheimer's disease.

“If I get stuck with something I can't handle, I yell for the kids,” says Betty Mae

Gutoski, 85, of Muskegon, Mich., who says she expects to live past 90. After all, her father lived to 98. The colon cancer survivor lives alone and says she is “comfortable,” getting occasional help with yard work from her son and grandson, who live next door.

Gutoski said in a telephone interview that she maintains her health by leading a busy life—driving, grocery shopping once a week, sewing, visiting the senior center, volunteering and meeting her friends for lunch—but she acknowledges having some fears. “My big worry is becoming a burden on my family,” she said.

She declined Thursday, becoming the latest congressional Democrat to mock Perry for the

Perry picks fight with Pelosi

PEARL, Miss. (AP)—Texas Gov. Rick Perry, who's running for president, is picking a fight with House Democratic leader Nancy Pelosi, who is not.

Struggling to steady his campaign for the GOP nomination, Perry this week launched an outsider's campaign against Washington culture and challenged Pelosi, ousted last year from the House speakership, to debate his plan to overhaul Congress.

She declined Thursday, becoming the latest congressional Democrat to mock Perry for the



54-second debate pause that launched a thousand jokes—some from Perry himself—during which the Texas governor couldn't recall the third of three government agencies he wants to eliminate.

“Monday I'm going to be in Portland in the morning. I'm going to be visiting some of our labs in California in the afternoon. That's two,” Pelosi told reporters. “I can't remember what the third thing is I'm going to be doing.”

Very funny, Perry suggested during a stop Jackson-Evers International Airport. Then

he launched into Pelosi with a stream of accusations that echoed Republican attacks on her during the 2010 elections as the face of government overreach on health care, the economy and more.

“She may have forgotten all the reasons she can't debate me on overhauling Washington, D.C., but the American people sure haven't forgotten the reasons we need to overhaul Washington,” Perry said. “When you have routine insider corruption on Capitol Hill, when you have liberal opposition for freeing the economy of this country, when you have just total disrespect for family values, I would suggest to you that's the reason Nancy Pelosi is running away from having a debate with me.”

Tornadoes in Southeast kill 6, flatten houses

LEXINGTON, N.C. (AP)—A day after deadly tornadoes struck the Southeast, survivors looked for what they could salvage, huddled in loved ones' hospital rooms and shared stories of how they made it through the furious storms.

Some were also mourning. People in a hard-hit North Carolina neighborhood marked the spot where a 3-year-old girl's body was found with an American flag. The little girl and her grandmother were among six killed in three states Wednesday.

The two were alone in the small house in a rural area south of Lexington when the storm hit, leaving behind only the foundation. The house's splintered remains were scattered hundreds of feet. The

family's Dodge minivan ended up propped against a nearby tree, its windows smashed and roof caved in.

Firefighters and volunteers searched for the girl, whose name wasn't immediately released, for more than two hours before finding her buried in a pile of shattered lumber and furniture.

“She was just beautiful—big blue eyes and so sweet,” said Maegan Chrisco, whose daughter played with the young victim. Elsewhere, the storms killed three people in South Carolina, and a Georgia motorist was died when a tree crushed his SUV north of Atlanta.

Dozens more were injured across the region, scores of buildings were damaged and

thousands were without power. Meteorologists confirmed Thursday that tornadoes had struck Louisiana and Alabama a day earlier and twisters were suspected in Mississippi, Georgia and the Carolinas.

“It looked like the ‘Wizard of Oz,’ ” Henry Taylor said, describing a funnel cloud outside his home near Rock Hill, S.C. “It was surreal, and for a moment, a split second, you say to yourself ‘This ain't real,’ then reality sets in, and you know it is.”

The 50-year-old Taylor said he and his wife sought refuge in a closet as the storm roared. Part of his roof was torn off, windows were blown out and trees had been snapped in two. But he and his wife escaped injury.



In a Tuesday, Nov. 15, 2011 photo, Nola Ochs, center, of Jetmore, Kansas, celebrates her 100th birthday with friends, family, and cake during halftime of the FHSU men's basketball game at Gross Memorial Coliseum in Hays, Kansas.

Asia

Obama: Clinton to travel to Myanmar

BALI, Indonesia (AP)—Detecting “flickers of progress” in the long-shunned nation of Myanmar, President Barack Obama announced Friday that he will send Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton to the repressed country next month, making her the first official in her position to visit in more than 50 years.

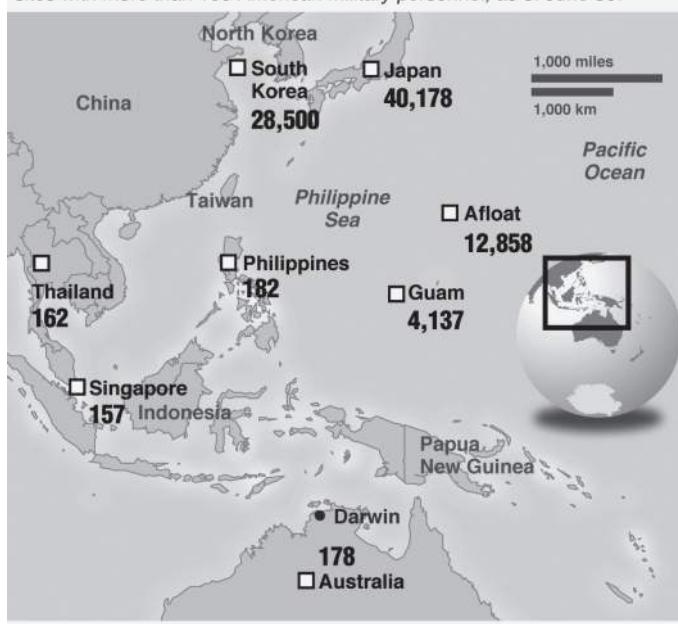
“We want to seize what could be an historic opportunity for progress and make it clear that if Burma continues to travel down the road of democratic reform, it can forge a new relationship with the United States of America,” Obama said Friday during his diplomatic mission to southeast Asia.

In deepening his engagement with Myanmar, also known as Burma, the president first sought assurances from democracy leader and Nobel laureate Aung San Suu Kyi. She spent 15 years on house arrest by the nation’s former military dictators but is now in talking with the new civilian government about reforming the country.

The two spoke by phone on Thursday night while Obama was flying to Bali on Air Force

Pacific presence

President Obama says the U.S. will send 2,500 Marines to Darwin, Australia, joining the fewer than 200 American troops there. Pacific sites with more than 100 American military personnel, as of June 30:



There are smaller numbers of U.S. military personnel in these countries: China, including Hong Kong (82); Vietnam (18); Malaysia (16); Marshall Islands (15); Cambodia (12); New Zealand (11); Myanmar (10); Laos (7); Fiji (2).

Source: ESRI, Department of Defense, GlobalSecurity.org
Graphic: Tom Reinken and Raoul Ranoa, Los Angeles Times

The U.S. imposed new sanctions on Myanmar but made clear it was open to better relations if the situation changed.

“After years of darkness, we’ve seen flickers of progress in these last several weeks,” Obama declared Friday.

Still, Obama said he has deep concerns about Myanmar’s human rights record, treatment of ethnic minorities and closed nature of its society. Clinton’s mission is to explore what the United States can do to support progress on political reform, individual rights and national reconciliation, the official said.

Benjamin Zawacki, Amnesty International’s Southeast Asia researcher, welcomed the news of Clinton’s visit as an opportunity to turn up the pressure on the government to address human rights abuses.

“We’ve been arguing a long time that political engagement and political pressure are not mutually exclusive,” Zawacki told The Associated Press, adding that Clinton “should not miss the opportunity in this historic visit to pressure the government and speak very clearly that the

human rights violations taking place there need to stop.”

Myanmar, a former breadbasket of Southeast Asia, has suffered not just repressive government but poor economic management during nearly 50 years of military rule.

It is subject to wide-ranging trade, economic and political sanctions from the U.S. and other Western nations, enforced in response to brutal crackdowns on pro-democracy protesters in 1988 and 2007 and its refusal to hand power to pro-democracy leader Suu Kyi’s party after the 1990 elections.

Now Myanmar’s nominally civilian government, which took power in March, has declared its intention to liberalize the hard-line policies of the junta that preceded it.

It has taken some fledgling steps, such as easing censorship, legalizing labor unions, suspending an unpopular, China-backed dam project and working with Suu Kyi.

Obama will see Burma’s president, Thein Sein, on Friday during a summit of Southeast Asian nations.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Suu Kyi party mulls registering for elections

YANGON, Myanmar (AP)—Senior members of Aung San Suu Kyi’s party are meeting to decide whether to register it as a legal body so that it can take part in future elections. The National League for Democracy leaders, meeting in Yangon, are likely to approve the move now that the military-aligned government has lifted a restriction that had barred her from contesting. The NLD refused to register last year because of that restriction. It was scrapped by the nominally civilian government that took office after winning the November 2010 elections.

3 patients die in Australian nursing home fire

SYDNEY (AP)—Fire raced through a Sydney nursing home filled with bedridden and mentally ill patients before dawn Friday, killing three elderly people and critically injuring another eight as firefighters crawled on their hands and knees through blinding smoke to rescue the victims. A total of 88 patients were evacuated from the building, many of them left in the open on beds and in wheelchairs until they could be transported to alternative accommodation. Many of the patients have dementia.

“This is a firefighter’s worst nightmare,” Fire Commissioner Greg Mullins said. “Turning up to a nursing home with elderly people who can’t get themselves out of harm’s way.”

Japan bans rice grown near crippled nuke plant

TOKYO (AP)—Japan has banned shipments of rice grown near a tsunami-hit nuclear power plant for the first time after detecting radiation exceeding the legal limit.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Osamu Fujimura said Thursday that a sample of rice from a farm contained 630 becquerels of cesium per kilogram. Cesium is among the radioactive materials that leaked from the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear plant after it was damaged by a March 11 earthquake and tsunami.

Under Japanese regulations, rice with more than 500 becquerels of cesium per kilogram is not allowed to be consumed.

Parents had safety fears for jammed China bus

BEIJING (AP)—Every time the dozens of kindergartners crammed into their makeshift bus for school in rural China, their relatives worried for their safety. Those fears were confirmed this week in a horrific wreck that killed 19 students.

“It was carrying way too many children,” one boy’s uncle said Thursday, a day after the crash in China’s Gansu province. “It was very dangerous.” The nine-seater was stuffed with 62 students aged 3 to 5, plus a teacher and the driver, when it collided head-on with a heavy truck on Wednesday morning on its way to the Little Doctor Kindergarten in Qingyang city. The two adults also were killed, officials said, while the two people in the truck were unhurt.

The death toll rose by one on Thursday night after a 5-year-old boy with severe brain and



A young survivor of a fatal collision between a school bus and a coal truck recovers at Qingyang People’s Hospital in Qingyang City, in northwestern China’s Gansu province Thursday, Nov. 17, 2011.

was recovering from head and foot injuries, and his nose was bleeding intermittently.

His parents, like many of those of the young crash victims, were migrant workers—

farmers and other poor people pushed to seek work outside of the countryside. Wu’s parents work in Shanghai and heard of the bus crash on the news. They were hurrying to the hospital

and were expected to arrive Thursday evening.

Wu was in a room on the intensive care floor with three other boys who also sustained head wounds in the crash, according to a nurse. They were out of danger and being watched over by their grandparents or other relatives.

There was an outpouring of sympathy for the plight of migrant parents and their “left behind” children on China’s micro-blogging sites, popular especially with educated middle-class urbanites.

The Ministry of Education issued an “urgent notice” to education authorities and schools across the country to carry out safety checks of buses and immediately stop using vehicles with safety problems. It said education departments in poor rural areas should “actively win the support” of local governments in arranging or hiring safe vehicles.

meaningful dialogue with the opposition. And concerns remain for long-persecuted ethnic minorities in the country.

Though some political prisoners have been released in recent months, many remain behind bars.

“Burma has long been a millstone around ASEAN’s neck, and that won’t be removed by making it the chair in 2014,” said Elaine Pearson, deputy Asia director for Human Rights Watch.

It’s more important that the regional grouping set clear benchmarks for reform and closely monitor progress, she said.

Military-dominated Myanmar to chair ASEAN in 2014

BALI, Indonesia (AP)—Military-dominated Myanmar will chair Southeast Asia’s regional bloc in 2014, officials said Thursday, despite concerns from human rights groups that the country’s democratic reforms have not gone far enough.

The chairmanship is supposed to rotate annually among the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, also known as ASEAN. But Myanmar, which has more than 2,000 political prisoners, was forced to skip its turn in 2006 because of in-

tense criticism of its rights record.

It has since held its first elections in 20 years, released Nobel Peace Prize laureate Aung San Suu Kyi from house arrest, and eased some restrictions on the media.

It also suspended work on a controversial Chinese dam despite the potential of antagonizing its closest ally.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Marty Natalegawa said Southeast Asian leaders meeting on the resort island of Bali had decided Myanmar should chair

ASEAN in 2014.

“It’s not about the past, it’s about the future, what leaders are doing now,” he told reporters. “We’re trying to ensure the process of change continues.”

The U.S. State Department on Thursday reserved judgment, saying it was not aware the decision on the chairmanship had been finalized.

“We’ve urged that ASEAN members consider a chair that can effectively advance the organization’s ideals, including democracy, human rights, regional peace

and stability,” spokesman Mark Toner said in Washington.

Human rights groups say it’s too early to celebrate the reforms in Myanmar, also known as Burma.

They want more evidence Myanmar—one of the world’s most isolated and autocratic countries for a half century—has really changed.

Though the new government is nominally civilian, it’s led by a former general who has promised to liberalize politics. So far he’s failed to open full,

World

WORLD BRIEFS

Italy's new govt passes 1st confidence vote

ROME (AP)—Against the backdrop of anti-austerity protesters clashing with riot police, Italy's new premier appealed to Italians to accept sacrifices to save their country from bankruptcy, but pledged economic growth and greater social cohesion in return. Mario Monti is under enormous pressure to boost growth and bring down Italy's high debt, not only to save Italy from succumbing to the debt crisis but to prevent a catastrophic disintegration of the common euro currency. "Europe is experiencing the most difficult days since the end of the Second World War," Monti told parliament in his debut address Thursday. "Let's not fool ourselves, honored senators, that the European project can survive if the monetary union fails."

Chavez deploys National Guard to help fight crime

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)—President Hugo Chavez ordered thousands of National Guard soldiers into the streets of Venezuela's capital and surrounding states Thursday, urging them to help outgunned police curb widespread violent crime. "We've been fighting and reducing overall crime rates, but we've fallen short when it comes to the number of homicides," Chavez told National Guard troops holding assault rifles as they stood in formation at a downtown plaza. More than 3,200 troops were deployed to the streets of Caracas as well as the surrounding states of Miranda and Vargas, according to Gen. Miguel Vivas Landino, commander of the new security force.

Mexico rights bodies allege abuses by ex-top cop

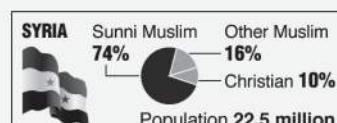
MEXICO CITY (AP)—A former police chief in the border city of Tijuana and several subordinates violated the human rights of suspects and broke the law by torturing people in custody, state human rights officials charged Thursday. Baja California state's Human Rights Commission and human rights prosecutor made the accusation in a report on the allegations against former chief Julian Leyzaola and others. The commission said Leyzaola has been summoned to appear before a state judge in the case. The rights body has the power to issue nonbinding recommendations and to refer cases to prosecutors.

Syria's president still has bulwark against foes

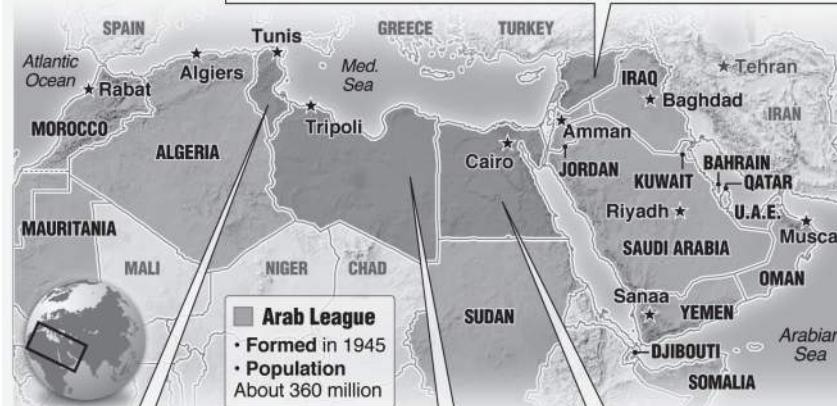
Syria rides violent track toward social change

The power held for 40 years by the family of President Bashar Assad is waning as citizens rise up and soldiers defect and begin attacking government forces. The UN says more than 3,500 people have died since the uprising began in March. Syria's path toward political reform has been among the most violent during the Arab Spring.

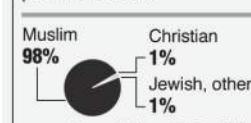
Three Arab nations depose longtime repressive rulers; Syria may be poised to follow suit



Protests start in March in Daraa; thousands die as the government uses military to quell protests in Damascus and other cities; refugees flee to Turkey; international condemnation mounts; Arab League votes Nov. 12 to suspend Syria from alliance

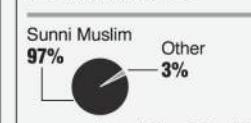


TUNISIA January resignation of President Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali inspired activists across Arab world; assembly elections took place in October



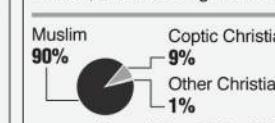
Source: BBC, CIA World Factbook

LIBYA Six months of heavy fighting, aided by UN-sanctioned air campaign, result in overthrow and death of Col. Muammar Gadaffi after four decades of rule



Graphic: Robert Dorrell

EGYPT Anger over poverty, corruption drive 18 days of protests in central Cairo; President Hosni Mubarak resigns Feb. 11; army in control; elections begin Nov. 28



Other countries facing serious internal unrest

JORDAN

Unrest has simmered since January but with very little violence; King Abdullah II has made cabinet changes

BAHRAIN

February protests violently put down by King Hamad, with Saudi help

OMAN

Protests and deaths occur in March over jobs, corruption

YEMEN

Protests target President Ali Abdullah Saleh since February; hundreds have died, analysts fear civil war could break out

© MCT 2011

been growing reports of army defectors and armed civilians fighting Assad's forces—a development that some say plays into the regime's hands by giving government troops a pretext to crack down with overwhelming force.

Assad blames the unrest on a foreign plot to destabilize Syria, saying extremists and terrorists—not true reform-seekers—are driving the calls to oust him.

In Istanbul, Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan said the world must urgently "hear screams" from Syria and do something to stop the bloodshed.

"The lack of reaction to massacres in Syria was causing irreparable wounds in the conscience of humanity," said Erdogan, whose country has imposed an arms embargo on Damascus and is sheltering more than 7,700 Syrian refugees.

Moscow's ties to Damascus stretch back to the Soviet era, when Syria relied heavily on economic and military aid from the former Soviet Union during the Cold War. In the mid-2000s, then-President Vladimir Putin was quoted as saying that Russia would re-establish its place in the Mideast via "the Syria route"—that is, by strengthening ties with Damascus.

Damascus still relies on Russian military equipment, receiving fighter jets, air defense systems and armored vehicles.

With eye on militants, Israel builds Africa ties

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel has identified eastern Africa as an important strategic interest and is stepping up ties with nations in the region in a joint effort to control the spread of Islamic extremists, officials said Thursday.

In effect, Israel would become a player siding with Christian-led African nations in conflicts with Muslim movements, a fault line that has sharpened around the continent in recent years. Israeli moves come as the United States as well has hiked up military support for African governments, in large part to combat al-Qaida-linked groups.

Israel's prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, hosted the leaders of Uganda and Kenya earlier this week, following a meeting at the United Nations in September with the president of the newly liberated South Sudan, the mainly Christian and animist nation that gained independence from Muslim Arab-led Sudan in July.

The outcome of the meetings—and the extent of Israel's moves to ally with the Africans—remains murky. Kenya's leader went so far as to say Israel promised to provide security assistance to his country to help protect its borders. Israeli officials say such claims

are premature, but say an alliance with Kenya and other eastern African countries is natural.

"We have joint interests and we believe that mutual cooperation can be beneficial to us all," said Israeli government spokesman Mark Regev.

Uganda and Kenya have been battling al-Shabab, a Somalia-based group that is linked to the al-Qaida terror network. At the same time, there are growing fears that Sudan and South Sudan could return to war because of lingering disputes.

Israel believes that al-Qaida elements are now active in the Gaza Strip and Egypt's Sinai Desert—territories that both border Israel's southern flank.

In Israel's eyes, eastern Africa poses a potential hinterland where al-Qaida and other Islamic militants could potentially forge ties with similarly minded groups just to the north in Egypt and Gaza. Israeli officials already believe that Sudan is a pathway for smugglers providing weapons to militants in Gaza and the Sinai and that al-Qaida-linked groups in Egypt were behind a deadly cross-border raid in August that killed eight Israelis.

Europe fears contagion in debt market turmoil

MADRID (AP)—Fear, that contagious emotion, spread from country to country in Europe on Thursday as panicky investors worried the euro currency union could be heading toward an ugly breakup.

Spain and even France, one of the continent's core economic engines, were forced to pay sharply higher interest rates to raise cash to fund government spending.

While the European Central Bank was suspected of intervening in bond markets to fight the rise in the borrowing rates, many analysts say it needs to act more aggressively to contain the crisis. But Germany, Europe's paymaster, once again blocked any such move on concerns it would let profligate governments off the hook.

Uncertainty is now even eroding the appeal of top AAA-rated government bonds from countries like France as investors prepare for worst-case scenarios like the deconstruction of the eurozone.

"Basically, if you look at any country that is not Germany, the contagion effect is major," said Oscar Moreno of Madrid brokerage house Renta4.

In Spain, an auction of 10-

year government bonds left the country paying interest rates of nearly 7 percent. That's the highest rate since 1997 and a level that economists see as unsustainable. Greece and Ireland received rescue loans from the European Union after their bond yields jumped above the same level.

Across the border, France had to pay 1.85 percent to sell two-year bonds, up from 1.31 percent at the last auction in October.

The dismal figures were the symptom of a broad retreat by investors this week from European stock and bond markets as they worry eurozone leaders are no closer to finding a lasting solution. Shares of European companies fell in all of the continent's exchanges, including so-called safe nations like Germany and the Netherlands.

In the U.S., stock indexes were down as the spiking bond yields in Spain overshadowed the latest signs of growth in the U.S. economy. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 135 points, or 1 percent, to close at 11,771.

German Chancellor Angela

Merkel added to the market carnage by shrugging aside hopes for a quick-fix solution to the

crisis. She insisted that spreading debt liability with a massive European Central Bank bond-buying drive could ruin competitiveness and won't resolve Europe's problems.

The ECB already buys government bonds in relatively small quantities—euro4.5 billion (\$6 billion) last week—to keep their yields down. A bond's yield is an indication of the rate the government would pay to raise money on markets.

Analysts said ECB bond purchases helped bring Italy's 10-year yield back below the 7 percent level on Thursday. But the program is far too small to make a lasting impact in bond markets.

The ECB's leaders say the bond purchases must remain limited and temporary to avoid giving governments the sense that they can delay much-needed reforms to make their economies more competitive.

Another move experts say could provide a decisive solution to the crisis is the introduction of "eurobonds" issued jointly by financially strong countries and weaker ones.

But Merkel rejected that as well, for fear of exposing German taxpayers to huge costs.

Youngstyle

Toy Hall of Famers:

Dollhouse, Hot Wheels, blanket

By BEN DOBBIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP)—Is Linus jumping for joy?

The blanket, an all-purpose plaything and a comfort for generations of thumb-suckers like Charlie Brown's best friend in the "Peanuts" comic strip, landed Thursday in the National Toy Hall of Fame along with Hot Wheels and the dollhouse.

The three take their places at The Strong, a children's and cultural history museum in upstate New York, alongside 46 other classics ranging from the bicycle, kite and teddy bear to Barbie, Jack-in-the-Box and Mr. Potato Head.

Curators said the blanket was a special addition in the spirit of two earlier inductees, the cardboard box and the stick. They praised its ability to serve either as recreational raw material or an accessory transformed in myriad ways by a child's daydreams.

"Every now and again we like to shake things up, remind folks there's play experiences that happen purely creatively ... rather than coming with rules, a path, a backstory you feel constrained into," said Christopher Bensch, the Rochester museum's chief curator.

"Blankets have been keeping people warm for centuries, but they've also been heating up kids' imaginations," serving as magic carpets and superhero capes, a peek-a-boo veil, a chair-draped fortress or "an island of safety surrounded by sea monsters."

For Linus, the comfort imparted by his precious blue blanket blends with its "play function" as a lasso, a whip, a Snoopy towrope and, in later adventures, "when he talks about turning his blanket into a sports coat when he grows up," Bensch said.

Longevity is a key criterion for getting into the 13-year-old hall, which was acquired in 2002 from A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village in Salem, Ore. Each toy must be widely recognized, foster



AP
Chase Boss of Pittsford and Maddie Berl of Victor, emerge from under a blanket fort as the blanket was introduced into the National Toy Hall of Fame on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011 in Rochester, N.Y.



AP
Hot Wheels is introduced into the National Toy Hall of Fame on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011 in Rochester, N.Y.



learning, creativity or discovery through play, and endure in popularity over generations.

The Dollhouse is introduced into the National Toy Hall of Fame on Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011 in Rochester, N.Y.

AP
Trying to create a toy that would be as big a success with boys as Barbie was with girls, Elliot Handler hit upon an idea for miniature die-cast vehicles with sleek designs. Hot Wheels were introduced in 1968 and the brand became a big hit.

Handler, who died in July at age 95, grew Mattel Inc. into the nation's largest toy maker along with his wife, Ruth, who created the Barbie doll in 1959.

The dollhouse evolved from 16th-century "baby houses," wooden cabinets in which wealthy European women displayed their collections of miniature furnishings.

German toy makers produced variations for youngsters to furnish with tiny chairs, tables, beds, tapestries and floor coverings and, by the 19th century, mass-production methods enabled dollhouses to grow in popularity.

"The dollhouse has gone on to hold a special place in the hearts of children everywhere," said Patricia Hogan, the museum's curator of toys and dolls. "From the most elaborately crafted mansions to the simplest home-made structures, the dollhouse gives kids an ideal environment for creative play, from furnishing and refurbishing rooms, making up stories and collaborating with friends and siblings."

More than a few heavyweight nominees fell short in 2011, including the puppet, the pogo stick and Rubik's Cube.

\$8, but is setting aside \$10 this year just in case prices have gone up.

George Smith, 43, a father of three in Adams County, Colo., says pets are "part of the family, just like our kids." But they keep the holiday gifts for Miley, a golden retriever, and Zippity, a cat, low-key: no fancy wrapping or stockings, just \$10 worth of toys and treats.

Steve Gottula's budget was \$100 last year and he figures it will run about the same this year for his two dogs and seven cats. Odie, a dachshund, and Sky, a Dalmatian, will get special bones, and the cats will get catnip and mouse balls.

Gottula, 48, his wife Leigh (she's the one who brings home the strays) and five kids (ages 6 to 16) live with the nine pets in Spring, Texas.

His daughters have made stockings for the pets—with their initials—and they are always part of holiday celebrations, Gottula said.

"The cats like to play with the paper and ribbon and get lost in the boxes and wrappings," he said.

What do his pets mean to him? "They are entertaining, they are companions. They have little senses of humor. They all have personalities. If you give love to them they give it back—it's unconditional," he said.

The AP-Petside.com Poll was conducted Oct. 13-17 by GfK Roper Public Affairs and Corporate Communications. It involved landline and cellphone interviews with 1,118 pet owners. Results among all pet owners have a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3.6 percentage points.

What will your pet find under the Christmas tree?

By SUE MANNING
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Just over half of American pet owners will buy gifts for their pets this holiday season, and they'll spend an average of \$46 on their animals, with toys and treats topping the list, according to a new AP-Petside.com poll.

Sixty-eight percent of pets getting gifts can look forward to a toy, 45 percent to food or another treat, 8 percent new bedding, 6 percent clothing, 3 percent a leash, collar or harness and 3 percent new grooming products, the poll showed. (Some pets will get more than one gift.)

"Christmas is about the pets," said Gayla McCarthy, 58, of Kekaha, Hawaii, whose Australian shepherd, Echo, will find a toy under the tree. McCarthy even got a shirt for her husband as a gift to him from the dog, and she'll be giving collapsible bowls that she ordered online to all their friends' dogs.

Although the average budget for pet gifts among those surveyed was \$46, 72 percent of those polled said they'd spend \$30 or less. Those who bought gifts for their pets last year said they spent \$41 on average.

Overall, 51 percent of those polled this year said they would buy holiday gifts for their pets, a figure that's been relatively stable in the last few AP-Petside.com polls. It was 53 percent last year, 52 percent in 2009 and 43 percent in 2008.

Income does matter. Those making \$50,000 or more say they plan to spend an average \$57 on their pets. Those making under \$50,000 say it will be \$29.

Major pet retailers have been taking part in the Black Friday and Cyber Monday frenzy for a few years. Petco Animal Supplies Inc. plans a 72-hour "Black Friday Weekend Blowout," said Greg Seremetis, vice president of marketing.

Products for both pets and pet owners will be available, he said. "Including pets in holiday gift-giving has been a growing trend in the last few years. More and

ONLINE:

<http://petside.com/gifts2011>

of pet owners under age 50. Among those ages 50-64, it's 47 percent, and among seniors, 39 percent, the poll showed.

Lauren Beard, 22, of Felton, Pa., and her family lavished their dog Groovy with gifts last year - including treats and bones - because it was the chocolate lab's first Christmas. "We still love her but it's a little less exciting this year," Beard said. So she reduced her budget of \$70 last year to \$50, and hopes to get some things on sale. She'll also buy a gift for Groovy's best friend and neighbor, a golden retriever named Tessie, Beard said.

Ronda Singleton and her husband live in Elk, Wash., and raise and show standard poodles. But

they don't plan to get gifts for their dogs or for each other. "If we need something, we go get it," she explained, adding that the dogs get treats all the time. She and her husband like to celebrate holidays with traditional dinners and church services.

Thomas Koch, 69, in Raleigh, N.C., has something special to celebrate this year—adoption of his adult son should be finalized, he said.

The two will spend the holidays with their dog, Jessie, a Sheltie-chow mix, and two cats, Tanz and Callie.

Last year, Jessie got toys and the cats got play mice and a large bag of catnip. "They liked it so much we just threw it on the carpet and let them roll in it," Koch said.

He covered the goodies last year for a mere



OUR CIRCUS MONKEY finds gold at the fruit market! Can you correctly count all of the bananas pictured above? You have 30 seconds.

Answer: 56 bananas (did you count the one in his hand?)

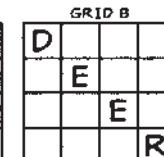
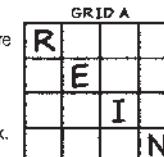
FIND THE HIDDEN CITY in this man's sentence! (You'll also find it in Spain and Ohio.)

Answer: Toledo ... Toledo led only ...

THEY WORK ONE DAY A YEAR FOR SANTA! To the right are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in grid A contain the same letters as the corresponding words in grid B.

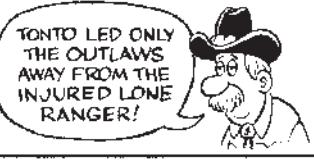
1. Got data from disk. 1. To confront boldly.
2. Animal homes. 2. To dispatch.
3. To eliminate; delete. 3. Your usual food and drink.
4. To gain from work. 4. Just barely avoided.

Answers: 1. Head-dare. 2. Den-sand. 3. Edi-dit. 4. Eat-meat



Illustrated by David Coulson

TONTO LED ONLY
THE OUTLAWS
AWAY FROM THE
INJURED LONE
RANGER!



FIND THE BIG WORDS!

Using the definitions and the anagrams below, you must find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework picture on the left. For each definition, the letters in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to form the word asked for.

DEFINITION:

- Where the gunfighters hide. sand + bald
- Modern jazz devotees rest + ship
- A quarrel or dispute gram + tune
- Without imperfection. saws+ fell
- Loudly proclaimed laze + bond
- North American vultures razz + buds
- Awning or bill cap dune + sash
- Handy paint holders fest + tape

ANAGRAM:

1. Where the gunfighters hide. sand + bald
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6. North American vultures razz + buds
7. Awning or bill cap dune + sash
8. Handy paint holders fest + tape

Answers: 1. Badlands 2. Blazened 3. Hipsies 4. Argument 5. Blazened 6. Buzzards 7. Glawless 8. Patter.

Strange BUT TRUE

by Samantha Weaver

■ It was 18th-century German scientist Georg Christoph Lichtenberg who made the following sage observation: "Everyone is a genius at least once a year. The real geniuses simply have their bright ideas closer together."

■ "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" (popularly known by a line from the chorus, "Glory, glory hallelujah") was written by Julia Ward Howe in November of 1861 after the author made a trip to Washington, D.C., and reviewed Union troops near the city. The song was published the following February in *The Atlantic Monthly* magazine, earning Howe a grand total of \$4 for what was destined to become one of the most popular songs of the Civil War and a perennial American classic.

■ When cartoon icon Bugs Bunny first appeared, in 1935, he was called "Happy Rabbit."

■ If you're a cat owner, it probably will come as no surprise that cats spend approximately 80 percent of their time sleeping.

■ Becoming a sports star is the dream of many young people, so you might think that someone who is signed to a professional baseball contract has it made. You'd be wrong, though; only one out of every 10 athletes who sign such a contract ever becomes a major-league ballplayer.

■ You've certainly heard the old adage "lightning never strikes twice" but, strictly speaking, it's not true. Technically, lightning *always* strikes twice. Each lightning bolt is made up of multiple bolts that travel the same path and strike the same spot in swift succession.

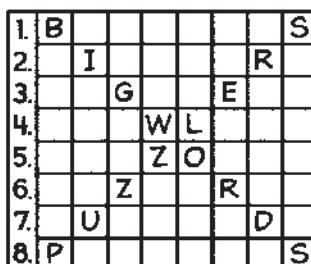
■ ■ ■

Thought for the Day: "I've noticed that men generally leave married women alone and treat them with respect. It's too bad for married women. Men are always ready to respect someone who bores them. And if most married women, even the pretty ones, look so dull, it's because they're getting too much respect." — Marilyn Monroe

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Junior Whirl

by Charles Barry Townsend



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MAGIC MAZE

THINGS WE TURN

P E B Y V E S P M J I I N E B Y
V T Q O L I Y G S C W D B Y W
T R P M K I F E E O D B Y W U
S Q O M K S I I D R F D S B Z
X W S W E R C S I N D U K S S
Q O N S U L B J T E I H C K F
D C O T E M A Y W R M L A N V
T N N S U G Q P N S E L B A T
L E E H W L A K I H S F R R E
C C T I F O R P B Z Y W U C V
U S R Q S K E E H C A M O T S

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|-------------|
| Blind eye | Crank | Pages | Tables |
| Centuries | Dimes | Profit | Thumbs down |
| Cheeks | Noses | Screws | Tides |
| Corners | Our backs | Stomach | |

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GO FIGURE!

by Linda Thistle

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

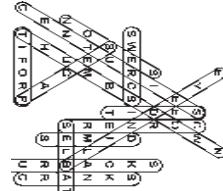
DIFFICULTY: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Difficult
★★★ GO FIGURE!

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| 26 | 13 | 13 | | | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |

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MAGIC MAZE ANSWER



GO FIGURE ANSWER

| | | | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|----|
| 26 | ÷ | 6 | + | 2 | 3 |
| 6 | - | 7 | × | 3 | 3 |
| 8 | - | 7 | + | 5 | 20 |
| 4 | ÷ | 1 | × | 5 | 20 |

Winter is rough on pets' paws

EAR PAW'S CORNER: I see more and more dogs, of all sizes, wearing little booties when outside in winter temperatures. Aren't dogs' paws designed to deal with rough terrain and cold weather? Why do owners feel like they have to protect their pets' paws? — Jerry in Kansas City, Mo.



Paw's corner

by Sam Mazzotta

pads, which is very painful for the dog. The soft skin between each pad also is very sensitive and easily can be scratched if debris gets caught between the pads.

Owners who don't opt to fit their dogs with booties in the winter before bringing them outside should check their dog's paws each time it comes back inside to make sure the pads are uninjured and nothing is caught between them.

Send your question or tip to ask@pawscorner.com, or write to Paw's Corner, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475. For more pet care-related advice and information, visit www.pawscorner.com.

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No-fuss slow-cooker beef tacos

It's finally time to share my family's favorite "Too Good to Be True Slow-Cooker Beef Tacos" recipe. Passed on by word of mouth from one neighbor to the other, it's a recipe that's so easy to remember that I've just never taken the time to write it down.

Simply put: "Place pot roast sprinkled with taco seasoning in a slow cooker. Set on high and cook five to six hours. Spoon tender, shredded beef into warm soft taco shells and add favorite fillings." That's it! No-fail, no-fuss cooking that our busy lifestyles demand when we want to gather friends together for a robust and tasty evening meal.

Ingredients for 12 soft-shell beef tacos:

2 1/2- to 3-pound boneless beef chuck pot roast, trimmed of fat

1-ounce package taco seasoning mix, such as Old El Paso brand

1 medium onion, peeled and sliced (optional)

12 flour tortillas

Toppings according to taste: cilantro, chopped tomatoes, chili peppers and onions, shredded cheddar cheese, sour cream, guacamole, salsa, squeeze of lime juice

1. Sprinkle both sides of meat with seasoning mix. Reduce the amount according to taste. Place meat in slow cooker. If using onion, spread slices evenly over the meat. No need to add water.

2. Cover, set on high and cook for five to six hours or until meat is tender and easily falls apart. Remove from slow cooker with a large slotted spoon.



pepper and 1/4 teaspoon salt. When meat and vegetables are tender, about two hours later, remove meat and vegetables with a slotted spoon and place on a serving platter. Spoon drippings over meat, and serve with a fresh green salad. Serves 6.

■ ■ ■

Donna Erickson's award-winning series "Donna's Day" is airing on public television nationwide. To find more of her creative family recipes and activities, visit www.donnasday.com and link to the NEW Donna's Day Facebook fan page. Her latest book is "Donna Erickson's Fabulous Funstuff for Families."

(c) 2011 Donna Erickson

Distributed by King Features Synd.

Good Housekeeping

By LISA ABRAHAM
AKRON BEACON JOURNAL

When Thanksgiving approaches and thoughts turn to pie, many cooks have discovered they can have a crusty situation on their hands.

Rolling out a picture-perfect pie crust can be a challenge for the most seasoned baker, but particularly for home cooks who may only bake pies from scratch a few times each year.

Ken Haedrich, author of *Pie: 300 Tried and True Recipes for Delicious Homemade Pie* (Harvard Common Press 2004, 2011), said the problem with pie baking, particularly for beginners, is that there is so much information out there now and so much of it is contradictory. The process of making the crust is intimidating for many.

While the classic French pate brisee or pastry crust contains all butter, Haedrich said he always falls back on his basic flaky pastry recipe, which uses half butter and half shortening.

"An all-shortening crust is excellent, but it is mainly textural, it's all flaky. An all-butter crust has great flavor, but not the flakiness. Over the years, I have found that half butter and half shortening gives the benefit of both," he said.

The addition of shortening

A perfect crust isn't pie in sky

means the crust will roll easier than an all-butter crust as well. Another option is lard, which is animal fat. Haedrich said lard will produce an extremely flaky crust, but some folks don't care to use it because it can have a stronger flavor. However, lard purchased in the grocery store is typically neutral in flavor. "The results are very flaky, almost like a shattering sort of flake," he said.

When putting crusts together, it is best to make sure that all ingredients, even the flour and salt, are very cold. Use ice water, not just tap water. The same goes for the bowl and any utensils, including the rolling pin — it helps to chill them first.

For putting a crust together, a hand-held pastry blender, a mixer or a food processor all work well. Use only enough water to allow the crust to come together.

Chill the dough for half an hour before rolling. Any longer and it will be too hard, requiring you to overwork it to get it rolled out, Haedrich said.

"Rolling is where people really start to get freaked out," he said.

Haedrich said he always tells

students to visualize something round, like a globe, when they start to roll.

"Roll from the center out and ease up on the pressure as you get to the edge. Let up at the edge so you don't pinch that edge," he said. "Roll straight out and keep rotating the crust as you go."

Haedrich recommends rolling on a piece of waxed paper or on top of a silicone baking sheet liner, so when it is done you can simply invert the crust into the pie plate and peel the paper off. The paper also makes it simple to rotate the crust.

Lightly flour the paper before beginning and flour the dough disc as well. A pastry that sticks often means the rolling surface wasn't evenly dusted with flour first.

If your paper is sliding on the countertop, consider putting a silicone baking sheet liner or damp washcloth underneath it. Because waxed paper is exactly 12 inches wide, Haedrich said it provides a built-in measuring guide for a 9- or 9 1/2-inch pie plate.

Here are pie crust recipes for getting started:

BASIC FLAKY PIE PASTRY For a single crust:



KAREN SCHIELY/AKRON BEACON JOURNAL/MCT

As Thanksgiving approaches, rolling out a picture-perfect pie crust can be a challenge for the most seasoned baker.

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1/2 tsp. sugar 1/2 tsp. salt 1/4 cup (1/2 stick) cold unsalted butter, cut into 1/4-inch pieces 1/4 cup cold vegetable shortening, cut into pieces 1/4 cup cold water

For a double crust:

3 cups all-purpose flour 1 tbsp. sugar 1 tsp. salt 1/2 cup (1 stick) cold unsalted butter, cut into 1/4-inch pieces 1/2 cup cold vegetable shortening, cut into pieces 1/2 cup cold water

To make in a food processor: Put the flour, sugar and salt in the food processor. Pulse several times to mix. Scatter the butter over the dry ingredients

and pulse the machine 5 or 6 times to cut it in. Fluff the mixture with a fork, lifting it up from the bottom of the bowl. Scatter the shortening over the flour and pulse 5 or 6 times. Fluff the mixture again. Drizzle half of the water over the flour mixture and pulse 5 or 6 times. Fluff the mixture and sprinkle on the remaining water. Pulse 5 or 6 times more, until the dough starts to form clumps. Overall, it will look like coarse crumbs. Dump the contents of the processor bowl into a large bowl. Test the pastry by squeezing some of it between your fingers. If it seems a little dry and not quite packable, drizzle a teaspoon or so of cold water over the pastry and work it in with your fingertips.

To make by hand: Combine the flour, sugar, and salt in a large bowl. Toss well, by hand, to mix. Scatter the butter over the dry ingredients and toss to mix. Using a pastry blender, 2 knives, or your fingertips, cut or rub the butter into the flour until it is broken into pieces the size of small peas. Add the shortening and continue to cut until all of the fat is cut into small pieces. Sprinkle half of the water over the mixture. Toss well with a

lightly browned, stirring occasionally. Don't crowd the pan; you want the vegetables to cook but not steam. Remove from heat; stir in 1/2 cup coarsely chopped fresh parsley leaves, 3/4 teaspoon poultry seasoning, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground pepper.

3. Boost the bread's flavor by adding liquids. Pour 2 1/2 cups canned chicken broth or homemade chicken stock over the bread cubes in a bowl. Add the vegetables. Toss until the bread mixture is evenly moistened. How can you tell you've used enough broth? "If the pieces are moist on the outside, not soaked through, and hold their shapes," says Westmoreland. Use your hands — that's the way to tell for sure. Broth is a flavor carrier, she adds, meaning the recipe can use less fat. USDA officials like a moist stuffing for another reason: Heat destroys any bacteria more rapidly in a moist environment.

4. Spoon stuffing loosely into the turkey. Stuff the bird as soon as the stuffing is assembled, advises the USDA, using 3/4 cup stuffing per pound of turkey. A looser pack means the stuffing will heat more evenly.

5. Roast the turkey (at 325)

fork to dampen the mixture. Add the remaining water, 1 1/2 to 2 tablespoons at a time, and continue to toss and mix, pulling the mixture up from the bottom of the bowl on the upstroke and gently pressing down on the downstroke. Dough made by hand often needs a bit more water. If necessary, add water 1 or 2 teaspoons at a time until the pastry can be packed.

To make with an electric mixer: Combine the flour, sugar, and salt in a large bowl. Add the butter, tossing it with the flour. With the mixer on low speed, blend the butter into the flour until you have what looks like coarse, damp meal, with both large and small clumps. Add the shortening and repeat. Turning the mixer on and off, add half of the water. Mix briefly on low speed. Add the remaining water, mixing slowly until the dough starts to form large clumps. If you're using a stand mixer, stop periodically to stir the mixture up from the bottom of the bowl. Do not over-mix.

Using your hands, pack the pastry into a ball (or 2 balls if you are making a double crust) as you would pack a snowball. If you're making a double crust, make one ball slightly larger than the other; this will be your bottom crust. Knead each ball once or twice, then flatten the balls into 3/4-inch-thick discs on a floured work surface. Wrap the discs in plastic and refrigerate for at least an hour or overnight before rolling.

—*Pie: 300 Tried and True Recipes for Delicious Homemade Pie*, Ken Haedrich

degrees or higher) as soon as it is stuffed, until the center of the stuffing reaches 165 degrees. Let the roasted turkey rest at least 20 minutes; remove all stuffing from the bird.

3 variations

Susan Westmoreland offers three quick ways to vary stuffing's flavor profile:

Chestnuts and sausage: Sauté 1 pound crumbled sausage in skillet along with vegetables; mix in 2 cups roasted, peeled, chopped chestnuts.

Fennel, pears, dried fruit: Swap out carrots, celery and onion for 1 small bulb fennel, chopped, 2 chopped pears and 1 cup dried cranberries, dried cranberries or golden raisins.

Corn bread: Substitute corn bread for white bread. Sauté 1 chopped bell pepper and 1 chopped jalapeno along with the vegetables.

Rather not stuff?

Cook the stuffing in a greased, shallow, 3-to 3 1/2-quart ceramic or glass baking dish. Cover with aluminum foil; bake 30 minutes in a 325-degree oven. Remove foil, bake 15 to 20 minutes longer or until heated through and lightly browned on top.

THIS IS A HAMMER

Key snapped off in door lock

By SAMANTHA MAZZOTTA
KING FEATURES SYNDICATE, INC.



Q: A couple of days ago, I was struggling to unlock the deadbolt of the side door on my garage, which tends to stick, when the key actually snapped in half! I can't reach the part inside the lock because it broke too far inside. I don't want to spend a lot of money on a locksmith, either. Meantime, I can't unlock the door. How can I fix this? Do I need to replace the entire deadbolt?—Jolanda W., Dallas

A: If you've already tried to retrieve the broken half of the key with needlenose pliers, a hat pin or thin wire with no success, you can try the desperate measure of dabbing a tiny amount of Superglue onto the half of the key you do have, and carefully inserting it—without touching the sides—until the broken halves meet. Let it sit for a few seconds and then carefully try to pull the entire key straight out. If this doesn't work, you can consider purchasing a key extractor kit, but the ones that are most effective cost as much or more than a locksmith visit.

A good locksmith is licensed and bonded, and should provide a written estimate of the type of work to be done and the cost. He or she should offer a couple of options once the key is extracted: either lubricating the existing lock and replacing the key, or replacing the entire deadbolt.

Because your garage deadbolt is a non-emergency, you have an advantage in that you can take your time and contact more than one locksmith for an estimate. Try to get a word-of-mouth recommendation from friends; otherwise, insist on an estimate first, and do not give any locksmith your credit-card information or other payment information ahead of the visit or before work is performed.

HOME TIP: Did moisture inside an exterior or car lock freeze in cold weather? Heat the key for a few seconds and then carefully insert to melt the ice.

Send your questions or comments to ask@thisisahammer.com, or write This Is a Hammer, c/o King Features Weekly Service, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.



5 steps to better stuffing

By BILL DALEY
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Proceeding majestically from kitchen to table with a gloriously golden turkey practically bursting with stuffing on its platter is an iconic moment in everyone's Thanksgiving dreams. You can do it for real, if you plan properly and take steps to build flavor in your stuffing.

The big challenge is cooking the stuffing in the bird to a safe 165 degrees without incinerating the bird. The key is to keep the turkey moist.

Susan Westmoreland, Good Housekeeping's food director, prefers cooking the stuffing in a baking dish but realizes that Thanksgiving is not Thanksgiving for some without a stuffed bird.

"If you do it...cover the bird with aluminum foil for everything but the last hour," she says. "Then start basting the turkey for some color."

Placing a loose tent of aluminum foil over the bird will create an environment that will help the stuffing reach the proper temperature, she says,

while helping the breast meat stay moist.

Westmoreland is editor of *The Good House Keeping Test Kitchen Cookbook* (Hearst, \$29.95). The newly published book contains a classic recipe for a vegetable-herb stuffing. Here, she walks through the deconstructed recipe, explaining how to get the best results with your stuffing. Use this recipe, or adapt your recipe to the steps.

1. Buy good bread. You'll need 1 1/2 loaves (16 ounces each) of sliced, firm bread. "Use either a Pullman loaf from a bakery or a good quality sandwich bread that has some body," Westmoreland says. Or try more creative loaves, such as Parmesan or herb. Toast slices on baking sheets in a 400-degree oven until golden and dry, turning slices over halfway through toasting, 16 to 17 minutes. Cut into 1/2-inch cubes.

2. Sauté vegetables for deeper, richer flavor. Finely chop 2 carrots, 2 ribs celery and 1 onion. Heat 1 tablespoon olive oil in a skillet over medium heat. Add the vegetables; cook until vegetables are tender and

lightly browned, stirring occasionally. Don't crowd the pan; you want the vegetables to cook but not steam. Remove from heat; stir in 1/2 cup coarsely chopped fresh parsley leaves, 3/4 teaspoon poultry seasoning, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground pepper.

3. Boost the bread's flavor by adding liquids. Pour 2 1/2 cups canned chicken broth or homemade chicken stock over the bread cubes in a bowl. Add the vegetables. Toss until the bread mixture is evenly moistened. How can you tell you've used enough broth? "If the pieces are moist on the outside, not soaked through, and hold their shapes," says Westmoreland. Use your hands — that's the way to tell for sure. Broth is a flavor carrier, she adds, meaning the recipe can use less fat.

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Life & Style

Demi Moore to divorce Ashton Kutcher



In this May 22, 2007 file photo, actors Ashton Kutcher, left, and Demi Moore arrive at the premiere of "Mr. Brooks" in Los Angeles.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Demi Moore is ending her marriage to fellow actor Ashton Kutcher, she told The Associated Press on Thursday. Moore, 49, and Kutcher, 33, were wed in September 2005.

The couple's relationship became tabloid fodder in recent months as rumors swirled about

Kutcher's alleged infidelity.

"It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I have decided to end my six-year marriage to Ashton. As a woman, a mother and a wife there are certain values and vows that I hold sacred, and it is in this spirit that I have chosen to move forward with my life. This is a trying time

for me and my family, and so I would ask for the same compassion and privacy that you would give to anyone going through a similar situation," she said in her statement to the AP.

The pair frequently used Twitter to communicate with each other as millions of fans followed along.

"I will forever cherish the time I spent with Demi," Kutcher tweeted Thursday. "Marriage is one of the most difficult things in the world and unfortunately sometimes they fail."

Moore said in 2007 that her May-December relationship with the star of "That '70s Show" and "Punk'd"—who is 15 years younger than Moore—"caught us both by surprise."

"If somebody would have said, 'OK, here is the prediction: You're going to meet a man 25 years old and he's going to see being with you and having your three kids as a bonus,' I would have said, 'Keep dreaming,'" Moore said in a 2007 interview with *Vanity Fair*. "I think it caught us both by surprise, and particularly him."

Kutcher became a stepfather to Moore's three daughters—Rumer, Scout and Tallulah Belle—from her 13-year marriage to actor Bruce Willis. Moore and Willis divorced in 2000 but remained friendly.

CBS head scolds Kutcher over Penn State tweet

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ashton Kutcher knows what a tough day is like. Demi Moore announced that she's ending their marriage, and Kutcher earned a slap from his top CBS boss for a controversial Twitter posting.

During a Q-and-A session Thursday at a TV industry meeting, CBS Corp. Chief Leslie Moonves said he's pleased with the ratings for revamped "Two and a Half Men" and with new star Kutcher—"aside from his comments about Penn State," Moonves added.

Last week, Kutcher condemned the firing of Penn State football coach Joe Paterno and then recanted the Twitter posting after it drew a flurry of criticism. The actor said he'd been unaware of the child sex-abuse scandal engulfing the university.

On Thursday, the 49-year-old Moore announced she was splitting from Kutcher, 33, the subject of rumors of alleged infidelity. The couple wed in 2005.

Regis feels 'pretty good' as he prepares to exit

NEW YORK (AP)—Regis Philbin says fans have told him he makes them happy every morning.

"I'm glad I did that," he says, "cause it made me happy."

But his decades of regular visits with viewers end after Friday, when he steps down from the New York-based show he has co-hosted for 28 years.

"I feel pretty good," he told reporters after Thursday's edition of "Live! With Regis and Kelly." But he noted that he may not feel that good next week.

"I wasn't looking forward to this moment," said Philbin, who

announced his decision to leave the syndicated show and try new things last January. "You never are in your life when you're leaving a success that you worked your tail off to make."

After Friday's sign-off, the 80-year-old Philbin will embark on a book tour for his new memoir, "How I Got This Way."

That's fortunate, he said. It'll take his mind off how he might be feeling Monday when "Live!



Philbin

With Kelly" goes on the air without him.

His book tour will have taken him to Miami then.

"I'll probably watch the show from my hotel room," he said, "and I'll feel 'Omid god, it's so far away.' Maybe it'll be better that I'm watching it from down there."

Jerry Seinfeld will join Kelly Ripa on Monday as the first of a series of guest co-hosts. A permanent replacement will

be named later.

Joining Philbin in the studio for the press conference, Ripa said her new partner would necessarily have a different style and forge a different dynamic with her than she has enjoyed with Rege since joining "Live!" in 2001.

"Will we be able to recreate the Regis magic? No, of course not," she said. "Only Regis has that."

She recalled that she had watched the show faithfully back when her predecessor, Kathie Lee Gifford, was teamed with Philbin.

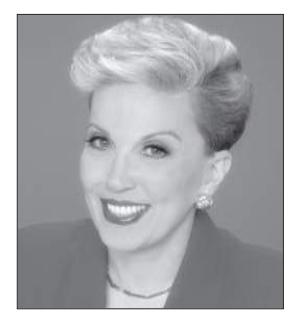
Birthday gift of bunny could flop without parents' approval

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My dad and I raise rabbits. My friend "Zoe" has always wanted one. Recently one of our rabbits had a litter, and Zoe fell in love with one in particular. Her birthday is coming soon, and I'm thinking about giving her this rabbit as a present. I would also include several days' worth of food.

My problem is, I don't know if I would be imposing on her parents. Should I ask them first? And do you think I should also include a cage?

KENTUCKY BUNNY-LOVER



Dear Abby

DEAR BUNNY-LOVER: You should never give a live animal as a gift unless you're positive that the creature will be welcomed and have a good home. That's why it's important to get the approval of Zoe's parents before giving her the rabbit. Be sure the family knows everything they need to about successfully raising a rabbit, including its behavior and the space requirements for exercise. You'll be doing them—and the bunny—a favor if you do. If Zoe's parents approve of the gift, it would be generous to include the cage.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 14-year-old guy. I have been growing my hair out for a long time, and my bangs are now down to my nose. It looks and feels really cool.

My problem is, now that I'm in high school, adults get on my case about my hair. I can hardly go one day without some teacher yelling at me to "get your hair out of your eyes!" I flip it to the side, but they still seem annoyed.

I'm tired of hearing about it. One day, five different teachers all got mad about it. What can I say to stop people from freaking out over my hair?

JOSH IN MICHIGAN

DEAR JOSH: Is this the only problem you're having with the teachers? Their concern may be that your hair is now so long you can no longer see the blackboard. And because they can't see your eyes, they may be unable to gauge whether you're "getting" the lesson they're trying to convey.

While you and I may think that what's inside your head is more important than what's on it, if several teachers have been commenting on your hair, it's time to do something about it.

DEAR ABBY: From time to time you have printed letters in your column from people who don't know what to do with their lives. I'm an intelligent woman in my mid-20s. I did well in high school, quickly selected a major in college, excelled there, graduated and found a job in my field. I worked for three years, and then was let go. As you can imagine, I was devastated. My plans for my life had fallen through.

That was several months ago. Since then, I have taken time to explore other options and interests. I may even head back to school, something I have wanted to do because I love to learn. I have also focused more on my social life and am in the first serious romantic relationship of my life.

To those of your readers who are unsure: Understand that life doesn't always go according to plan, but there is nothing wrong with that.

MOVING ON IN UTAH

DEAR MOVING ON: I agree—you are an intelligent young woman, and an emotionally healthy one as well. You have been able to recognize the positive in what many people consider a negative situation. Your letter illustrates that when one door closes, another one opens. Your attitude will serve you well in life.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write *Dear Abby* at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: *Dear Abby*—Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Tyler Perry defends casting Kardashian in new film

ATLANTA (AP)—Filmmaker Tyler Perry is defending his controversial decision to cast reality television star Kim Kardashian in an upcoming film about marriage. Perry announced that Kardashian will have a role in "The Marriage Counselor" shortly before she ended her 72-day marriage to NBA player Kris Humphries, creating a buzz on social media sites. Perry says he wanted a younger cast, which Kardashian rounds out, to help attract younger viewers. In a statement on his website, Perry says he thinks "it would be a very responsible of her to be a part of this film" and good for young people who see her as a role model to "see her in a film that is about what happens in life when you make the wrong choices."

American Idol winner

Ruben Studdard seeks divorce

COLUMBIANA, Ala. (AP)—American Idol winner Ruben Studdard is divorcing his wife of three years, saying they haven't lived together since last year. Court records show Studdard filed a contested divorce last week in Shelby County, where he lives in suburban Birmingham. The complaint says he and Zuri Studdard split in October 2010, and she now lives in the Atlanta suburb of Smyrna, Ga. The complaint cites a "complete incompatibility of temperament" for the divorce, and it asks a judge to enforce a prenuptial agreement that was signed before they wed in 2008. Studdard was known as the "Velvet Teddy Bear" when he won the second season of American Idol in 2003.

'Great Train Robber'

Ronnie Biggs launches memoir

LONDON (AP)—Ronnie Biggs, who spent decades on the run and years in jail for his part in Britain's "Great Train Robbery," says he'll be remembered as a "lovable rogue." A frail Biggs on Thursday launched an updated edition of his autobiography, "Odd Man Out." Biggs was part of a gang that stole millions from a mail train in 1963. He was sentenced to 30 years but escaped and fled to Brazil. Biggs returned to Britain, and jail, in 2001 but was released in 2009 because of his failing health. Biggs has expressed regret about train driver Jack Mills, who was injured during the robbery and died in 1970.

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Farmer – 1 year experience \$ 5.05/hr. Send resume to P.O. Box 501555 C.K. Saipan MP 96950

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1 Scuba Diving Instructor: \$ 5.05-7.00/hr. College degree and at least 3 years' experience as scuba diving instructor required. Fluency in Korean required.

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2 Front Office Clerk: \$ 5.05/hr. At least 2 years' experience as front office clerk in hotel environment required.

1 Cook Helper: \$ 5.05/hr. At least 1 year experience as cook helper required.

1 Housekeeping Cleaner: \$ 5.05/hr. At least 3 years' experience as housekeeping cleaner in hotel environment required.



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1 Commercial cleaner: \$ 5.05/hr. Minimum 2 years' experience as commercial cleaner. Email resume to sk@hanmisapian.com.

2 Sales Representative: \$ 5.05/hr. At least 3 years' experience in scuba diving tour or marine sports required. Fluency in Korean and Chinese required. Must be willing to live and work in Tinian. Email resume to blueocean@hanmisapian.com.

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(1) Equipment Technician- 3 years experience. \$ 5.05/hr. Email resume to splcspn@yahoo.com. South Pacific Lumber Co.

1-Gen. Maintenance. \$ 5.05/hr. H. S. graduate w/ 3 yrs work related exp. willing to work day or night. Vimar Offshore, Inc. dba Manic Inn. Call 234-9511.



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(2) Tour Guide: \$ 5.05/hr, tips and commission. Korean speaking and writing fluency is required. Email resume to knl@hanmisapian.com.

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Bachelor Degree. 5 years experience.
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Tel. 233-3378



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➤ Be able to lift and carry 30lbs.
➤ Assist in setting up and cleaning concession stand.
➤ 5-10 years experience in food service preferred.

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➤ Must have a High School Diploma/GED equivalent.
➤ Stamina to work on your feet for 6hr shift.
➤ Preferably speaking English.
➤ Able to speak Filipino, Chinese, Korean preferred.
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➤ 5-10 years experience in food service preferred.

Send resume to Fax: (007) 523-9733 or PO Box 506462, Saipan, MP 96950

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4 Barbers
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5 years experience, Trade test required. Call 233-6300 for interview.

Job Vacancy Announcement
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- Background in/Knowledge of government contracts process and negotiation preferred
- Excellent interpersonal skills as well as excellent oral and written communication skills are required
- Must be proficient in DDMIS Software with intermediate/advanced skills in word processing, spreadsheet and presentation applications.
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : GOVERNMENT SALES ACCOUNT MANAGER (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Minimum of 3 years experience in government procurement sales & government procurement regulations
- Minimum of 2 years experience in sales of office & school products
- Ability to manage a pipeline of 50+ accounts at any given time
- Experience with and demonstrated proficiency with MS Office Applications (such as MS Word, MS Excel) and DDMIS Software
- Manage and monitor the MRO purchases of customers
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : CREDIT ANALYST (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Associates Degree in Business/Related Discipline or Equivalent Work Related Experience
- A minimum of three years experience in a credit/collections environment
- Proficiency in MS Office Applications (such as MS Word, MS Excel, MS Publisher) and DDMIS Software
- Strong ability to communicate both orally and in writing
- Ability to be flexible with position duties and scope of work
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

Applications can be obtained at and submitted to National Office Supply on Beach Road, South Garapan. A copy of valid police and court clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Background checks will be required prior to employment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification & experience. All positions close on November 22, 2011.

POSITION : ACCOUNTANT (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Associate's Degree in Accounting
- Minimum five years work-related experience in general accounting in the retail industry
- Must be able to prepare and maintain G/L, financial statements and reports
- Must be able to prepare payroll and monthly, quarterly and annual tax returns
- Must know CNMI & Federal tax rules
- Must be proficient in MS Word and Excel, Peach Tree Accounting and DDMIS Software
- Must have a valid CNMI Driver's License

POSITION : INVENTORY CONTROL SPECIALIST (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- 3-5 years experience in related field
- Working knowledge of inventory practices
- Cost accounting background
- Proficient with PC software to include: word, excel and DDMIS
- Ability to write routine reports and correspondence
- Detail oriented and well organized
- Must be flexible to work weekends and holidays
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : ACCOUNTING ASSOCIATE (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Associate's Degree
- Minimum 3 years work-related experience in general accounting in a retail company
- Must have extensive knowledge and experience in receivables, payables, shipments documentation, inventory control, costing, billing and invoicing
- Check documentation to comply with Gov't/Custom Regulatory requirements on imports
- Must be proficient in MS Excel and Peach Tree Accounting Software
- Must have a valid CNMI Driver's License

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Grounds Maintenance Worker (1 Position) – High School Graduate with 5 Years Experience in Grounds Maintenance to include working with various machinery such as Lawnmower & Bushcutter, plus other the Gardening tools such as machete, tree saw, scissor trimmer. Must also have knowledge and experience in plant maintenance, care, and cultivation. Other duties may include some general commercial cleaning plus light carpentry, masonry, plumbing and electrical work as assigned. Must be reliable, dependable, good character & trustworthy. Must have valid CNMI Driver's License. Minimum Wage, No Benefits, Work Holidays and weekends as required. Must be Flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Building Maintenance Repairer (3 Positions) – High School Graduate with 5 Years Work Experience as Building Maintenance Repairer to include working with various work tools and machinery necessary for all kinds of building repairs. Must have general knowledge and experience in carpentry, masonry, plumbing and electrical work. Must be reliable and dependable. Have valid CNMI Driver's License Preferred. Must be reliable, dependable, good character, and trustworthy. Minimum Wage. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Commercial Cleaner (1 Position) – High School Graduate with 5 years experience in Commercial Cleaning. Must be able to maintain floors (Mop, sweep, vacuum), maintain restrooms (Clean and Deodorize), maintain office spaces, collect and dispose of trash, clean windows plus other related duties as assigned. Must be reliable and dependable. Minimum Wage. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Houseworker (3 Positions) – High School Graduate with 5 Years Experience. Must be well rounded in household duties such as cooking, cleaning, laundry, ironing, & care giving. Duties would be inclusive of cleaning & deodorizing restrooms, cleaning windows, maintaining floors, collecting & disposing of trash. Must be reliable, dependable, good character, and trustworthy. Minimum Wage. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Administrative Assistant (1 Position) – High School Graduate. College Degree preferred. With 5 years work experience. Duties to include Bookkeeping work, Maintaining Petty Cash Accounts, Receive Cash & Prepare Receipts, Prepare Deposits, Renew Various Licenses and Permits, Maintain Administrative and Business Files, Compile & Prepare BGR Tax Returns, Prepare Lease Agreements, Prepare Business Correspondence plus other related duties. Must have knowledge and experience with Peachtree Accounting Software. Must have good people skills in addressing customers, clients, & tenants courteously. Must be reliable, dependable, good character, and trustworthy. Minimum Wage to \$7.50 per hour commensurate with experience. No benefits. Work holidays and weekends as required. Must be flexible. Police Clearance Required.

Please submit resume or job history along with your contact information to Sablan Enterprises, Inc Corporate Office located on the 2nd Floor of Sablan Building Chalan Piao above Subway. Call 234-2585 for more information.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

POSITION : SALES REPRESENTATIVE (5)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- High School diploma required
- Minimum of 2 years experience in retail sales of office and school products
- Good working knowledge of MS Word, Excel and DDMS Software
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Must be flexible to work specific schedules, weekends, holidays and overtime as necessary
- Ability to calculate figures & accounts such as discounts, mark-up, percentages, etc.

POSITION : OFFICE MACHINE SERVICER (2)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- Associate Degree in Electronics / Mechanical or Broad Specialized Training Equivalent to 2 Years Related to Electronics or Mechanical or Electro-Mechanical
- 2-3 years experience with repairing and maintaining different ranges of office equipment / machines
- PC Application proficiency and or Networking fundamentals
- Knowledge of digital copiers, MFPs, fax machines, time recorders, cash registers, shredders, printers, typewriters and binding machines
- Must have good verbal and written communication skills
- Must have a valid CNMI driver's license

POSITION : OFFICE FURNITURE ASSEMBLER (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- 1-2 years of assembly, installation and delivery experience in a retail environment
- Proficient with basic furniture assembly & installation hand tools (power drill, power screw drivers, power saw, ratchets, wrenches etc.)
- Must be able to read, understand and follow product assembly and installation instructions of each manufacturer's product line
- Ability to perform work assignments with little or no supervision
- Must be flexible to work nights, weekends, holidays, overtime and off-island as necessary
- Must be able to work in various positions, including, but not limited to, stooping, standing, bending over, sitting, kneeling and squatting for extended periods of time
- Job will regularly require lifting of 25-80 lbs and moving of large objects
- Must regularly operate warehouse equipment such as sit-down & stand-up fork lift, pallet jack, hand truck / dolly type equipment
- Must regularly drive a delivery truck
- Ability to be D.O.T. Certified and physically qualified to drive by passing a D.O.T. physical
- Must have a valid forklift operator certificate
- Must have a valid CNMI Driver's license

POSITION : WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- High School diploma required
- 2-3 years of successful management experience in distribution / warehouse operation of 5 or more employees
- Must have a good math, reading and writing skills
- Must have experience with bar-coded inventory management system
- Must be computer literate
- Must have good working knowledge of DDMS Software
- Must be able to lift 75 lbs on a regular and consistent basis
- Prior experience operating warehouse equipment such as forklift, pallet jack, hand truck / dolly type equipment
- Must regularly drive a delivery truck
- Ability to be D.O.T. Certified and physically qualified to drive by passing a D.O.T. physical
- Must have a valid forklift operator certificate
- Must have a valid CNMI Driver's license

POSITION : WAREHOUSE WORKER (2)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- High School diploma required / equivalent work related experience
- At least 2 years of warehouse experience, shipping / receiving, order picking and packing duties
- Must have experience with bar-coded inventory management system
- Must be computer literate and able to perform basic function and look up inventory
- Must have good working knowledge of DDMS software
- Must have prior experience operating warehouse equipment such as forklift, pallet jack, hand truck / dolly type equipment
- Must be able to lift and move 25-50 lbs frequently and up to 80 lbs. occasionally
- Must be able to stand for duration of the job
- Must have a valid forklift operator certificate
- Must have a valid CNMI Driver's license

POSITION : BUILDING MAINTENANCE REPAIRER (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- At least 3 years experience in maintenance and construction related trades
- Capability to repair all types of problems in masonry construction
- Highly skilled in waterproofing and protection techniques used to control deterioration of structures
- Waterproof and damp proof walls and other building surfaces to help keep buildings dry
- Must have the ability to perform a variety of roof repairs
- Must be able to work in various positions, including, but not limited to, stooping, standing, bending over, sitting, kneeling and squatting for extended periods of time
- Must be able to lift, pull and push materials and equipment to complete assigned job tasks
- Must be able to lift 50 lbs of weight frequently throughout assigned workday
- Must be able to work in precarious or high locations and also be able to climb and descend ladders or scaffolding

POSITION : RETAIL IN-STORE PRODUCT DEMONSTRATOR (1)

QUALIFICATIONS :

- High School Diploma Required
- Must have at least 2 years preferably current of product demonstrating and sales experience in a retail environment
- Must have thorough knowledge of office & school products
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills
- Good working knowledge of MS word, excel and DDMS Software
- Must be able to stand up to six hours

Applications can be obtained at and submitted to National Office Supply on Beach Road, South Garapan. A copy of valid police and court clearance must be attached to the application. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. Background checks will be required prior to employment. Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required. Salaries will be commensurate with qualification & experience. All positions close on November 22, 2011.

Job Vacancy Announcement
(1) General Maintenance

Salary: \$5.05/hr

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at 433-0505 for more info.

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Minimum of 5 yrs. experience in surveying business preferred.
Interested persons may submit resume to our office Located on the ground floor JETENORIO Bldg. Gualo Rai Or fax to 235-8914 email joehof17@yahoo.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

HOFFSCHNEIDER LAND SURVEYING is a licensed Professional Surveying Company located in Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands is currently looking for qualified applicant to fill the following positions:

1 - Surveyor

Successful candidate will have an extensive knowledge of the fundamentals of land surveying using conventional methods and equipments and will have experience in making exact measurements and determining property boundaries. Provide data relevant to the shape, contour, gravitation, location, elevation, or dimension of land or land features on or near the earth's surface for engineering, mapmaking, mining, land elevation, construction, and other purposes.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelors Degree in Surveying or Associate Degree with 5 years experience.
- 5 to 10 years of experience preferred.
- GPS Post Processing experience.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.

1 - Surveyor Technician/Helper

Successful candidate will have experience in performing various types of boundary, right-of-way, topographic, control and construction staking surveys.

Minimum Qualifications:

- High School Graduate
- 3+ years of work experience
- Dependable and Strong Desire to Work Outdoors under Normal to Extreme Conditions.

For consideration, please submit your resume to our office via hand delivered, fax or E-Mail. No Phone Calls or Walk-Ins will be accepted. HOFFSCHNEIDER LAND SURVEYING CO. is located on the ground floor of J.E. Tenorio Bldg in Gualo Rai, Garapan. Fax number is (670) 235-8914. E-Mail address is joehof17@yahoo.com.

General Construction/Maintenance Worker (4):
Able to perform carpentry, painting, masonry, plumbing, sheet metal and welding works. Skill in using power and measuring tools. Identify and specify the right materials. Can read and interpret construction plans and drawings. Minimum of 3 years experience.

Submit application not later than November 22, 2011 at ASIA PACIFIC INDUSTRIES, INC., P.O. Box 50360, Saipan MP 96950 or email at asiacap@pticom.com, or call 235-5454

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

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Wanted - (1) Technician with knowledge and skill in the operation of a screw type oil press and the processing of oils from nuts. H.S. diploma and 2 years experience preferred. Salary: \$5.05/hr. Call Mt. Tapochau Farms at 285-5730 for more info.

**J Lee Development Corporation
Accountant**
5 years experience in General Accounting
Mail resume to PO Box 500706, Saipan, MP 96950

Job Vacancy Announcement
(2) Commercial Cleaners

with previous experience
Interested individuals should submit their resume with Police Clearance & recommendation letter from previous employers to RLC&M@gmail.com or call 483-6903.

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(1) ASSISTANT MANAGER
Has 4 year Degree Course preferably Accounting Graduate. At least 8-10 years work experience. Perform Accounting works in an office and knowledgeable in Peachtree Accounting software, MS office, PowerPoint. Perform clerical job, Bookkeeping and administrative works. Responsible in managing employee schedules, and analyze profit and loss statement of the operation. Willing to work full time with flexible working hours.
Salary: \$5.05/hour.

PLEASE MAIL YOUR RESUME
to PMB 697 Box 10000,
Saipan, MP 96950
or contact our Office at
Tel. (670) 233-1545
between 2:30PM - 9:00PM

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JWS AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION, INC.

One (1) Sales Engineer
Salary \$1,200.00 – 2000.00 Monthly
• Sales HVACR Mechanical, Electrical and related equipment, parts, supplies with required professional engineering knowledge and judgment on product recommendation
• Prepare estimates on equipment, parts, supplies, or services as needed
• Knowledge on building management system, experience with turbocor compressor and control a plus
• Must be knowledgeable in interpreting plans and specifications and prepare shop drawing

POSITION AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY.
Application can be obtained and submitted at JWS AIR CONDITIONING AND REFRIGERATION, INC.'S OFFICE AT UNIT 4, G/FLOOR, LIM'S BLDG., COR. BEACH AND MSGR. GUERRERO ROAD, SAN JOSE VILLAGE, SAIPAN OR EMAIL TO: jwssaipan@pticom.com or tonyj.jwssaipan@pticom.com

Salpau Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Sablan, other delegates come out swinging as 112th Congress starts

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| (PRINT AND ONLINE) |
|--------------------|
| \$27 |
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| \$57 |

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REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Tebow, Broncos top Jets on last-minute drive, 17-13



DENVER(AP)—There's a new Comeback Kid in Denver, and John Elway's proudly looking on as this plucky quarterback wins with his legs, not his arm.

Tim Tebow's 20-yard touchdown run with 58 seconds left capped a 95-yard drive and sent the Broncos to a 17-13 victory over the stunned New York Jets on Thursday night.

"I like winning," Tebow said after his third comeback in a month, "but I wish it wasn't this stressful."

The Broncos had punted on their eight previous possessions when they got the ball with less than 6 minutes and 95 yards to go. Tebow calmly drove Denver down the field, thwarting a Jets defense that had throttled him all night.

"We played them well, through the whole game, until that last play," Jets star cornerback Darrelle Revis said. "We played them well. Tim Tebow's legs took them to victory, ran them to victory."

On third-and-4 from the Jets 20 and under a minute left, the Broncos got an extra minute to think about things when a fan ran onto the field and was corralled by security.

During the break, the Jets dialed up their first all-out blitz of the night.

Tebow took the snap from the shotgun with 1:06 left, read the blitz and outflanked safety Eric Smith around the left edge, then cut back and bulled his way past other Jets into the end zone.

"He shocked me," Revis said, "probably shocked a lot of people."

Not Jets coach Rex Ryan.

"You know he's going to keep it in that situation. That's what he does. You keep the ball in your playmaker's

Source: NBA owners hold conference call



NEW YORK(AP)—NBA owners held a conference call Thursday to receive an update on the lockout, a person with knowledge of the details said.

Also Thursday, the antitrust lawsuit filed by players in California was reassigned to U.S. District Judge Samuel Conti. The first case management conference has been scheduled for March 9.

Though that would be too late to save the season, the sides could request the date to be moved up, or they could settle before it ever got that point. Attorney David Boies, representing players in an antitrust lawsuit against the league in California, said he hoped it wouldn't be necessary to litigate the case all the way through.

Representatives for the players have also said the league could let the players return while negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement continued, though that seems unlikely.

The players' association disbanded Monday, and players filed two lawsuits Tuesday, one each in California and Minnesota.

The conference call involving the league's Board of Governors was not in response to the litigation, but rather a planned update on the status of the collective bargaining negotiations, the person told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the details were to be kept private.

hand," Ryan said. "We thought he was going to carry the ball and he didn't disappoint us. But he ran for a touchdown. The kid's a competitor and makes big plays with the game on the line."

The Jets (5-5) lost for the second time in four nights.

The Broncos (5-5) are 4-1 since Tebow replaced Kyle Orton, and at .500, they're a-half game behind Oakland in the AFC West race.

"He's a competitive dude," Broncos coach John Fox said. "He's super competitive. He never lays his sword down. He'll fight you to the death. That's just his nature. He's a great young man."

Mark Sanchez's desperation pass toward the end zone was batted down as time expired and the Jets trudged off the field with their playoff hopes dimmed just a week after they were brimming with optimism.

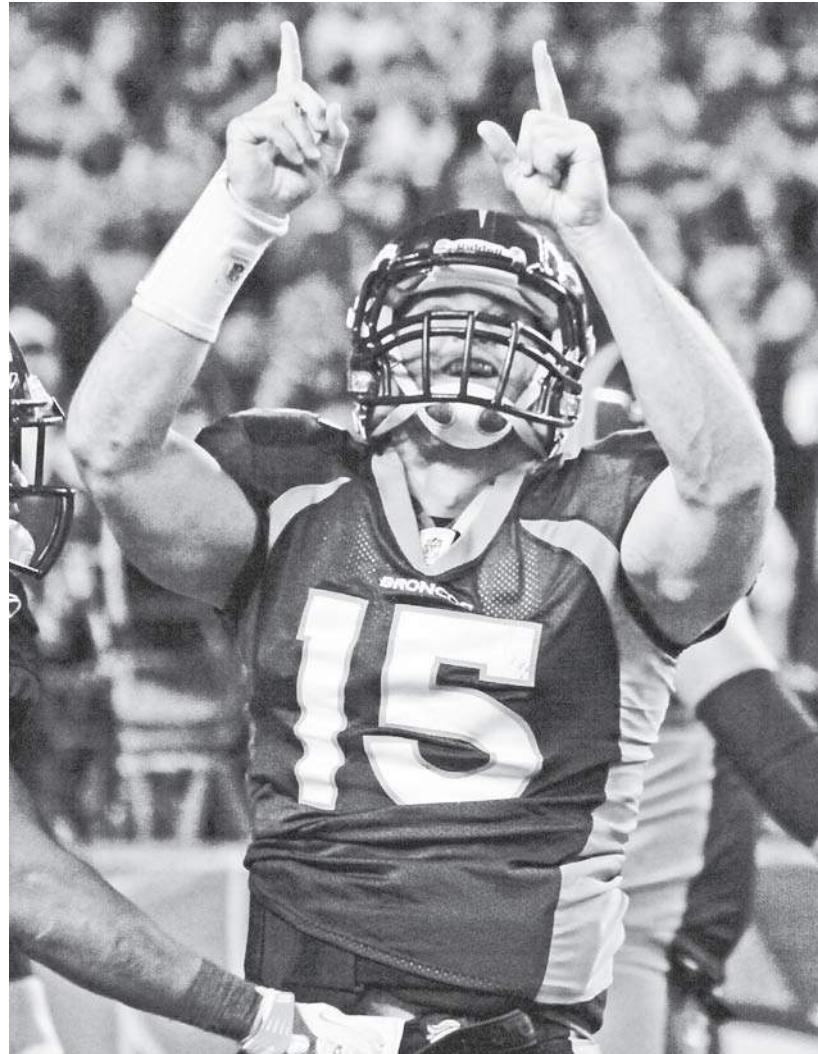
Nick Folk's 45-yard field goal had broken a 10-10 tie with 9:14 remaining, and the Broncos found themselves facing a daunting task when they got the ball back with 5:54 left at their own 5.

New York safety Jim Leonhard could have quashed Denver's winning drive on the first play when he wrapped up Eddie Royal in the end zone on a throw to the right flat, but Royal wiggled free for 8 yards.

Tebow ran just twice for 11 yards until the final drive, when he carried seven times for 58 yards in a performance reminiscent of his miracle in Miami, when he was ineffective for 55 minutes, then led the Broncos to two TDs in the final 5 minutes of a game Denver won in overtime.

"I think it was just a bunch of guys that kept fighting, that had been knocked down a bunch of times and got back up," Tebow said. "I'm proud of these guys for their resiliency and determination."

After completing just two passes in a win at Kansas City four days earlier, Tebow completed 9 of 20 passes for 104 yards Thursday night.



Denver Broncos quarterback Tim Tebow reacts after scoring a touchdown in the fourth quarter against the New York Jets in an NFL football game, Thursday, Nov. 17, 2011, in Denver.

"I said before, I trust him. I trust him with everything," teammate Von Miller said. "No matter how many interceptions he throws, no matter how many touchdowns he scores, that's Tim Tebow and I'm going to ride with him to the end. I hope he shut up a whole bunch of critics today."

The debate across the NFL is whether the option is sustainable? After all, when Elway joined the team's front office this year, he said Tebow had to

become a pocket passer to make it in this league.

"I want to run whatever's going to work," Tebow said, disputing the notion advanced by Hall of Famer and TV broadcaster Steve Young that he must be mad that Fox isn't letting him throw the ball more like a conventional quarterback.

Before Denver's unorthodox option offense prevailed again, it appeared the Jets were going to win this

one thanks to an oddball touchdown.

Left guard Matt Slauson recovered rookie running back Bilal Powell's fumble at the 1 and dived across the goal line early in the third quarter to give New York a 10-3 lead.

"It was awesome at the time," Slauson said. "Unfortunately, it doesn't mean anything now."

Denver tied it at 10 when Andre' Goodman stepped in front of Plaxico Burress and picked off Sanchez's ill-advised pass and returned it 26 yards for a touchdown.

"I shouldn't have thrown it," Sanchez lamented. "It's an embarrassing play on my part."

It was the third pick-six Sanchez and thrown this year, and the Jets followed that with their fourth lost fumble on special teams when Joe McKnight coughed it up on the kickoff return at his 41. Cassius Vaughn recovered for Denver, but the Broncos couldn't capitalize this time, going three and out.

McKnight and Powell shared snaps after New York's backfield took another hit when starting running back Shonn Greene took a knee to the ribs and didn't return. They were already without LaDainian Tomlinson (knee), so Powell was activated for the first time all season.

With each game, the Broncos mold their offense more and more to fit Tebow's unique skill set that made him the most successful combination college quarterback in NCAA history, just as former Florida coach Urban Meyer once suggested an NFL team would have to do.

And they keep watching him run roughshod over defenders who are bigger, faster and stronger than they were in the SEC.

"He did it to us in college and he's doing it here," said teammate Robert Ayers, who went to Tennessee. "It doesn't have to be pretty, it doesn't have to be Aaron Rodgers-like. As long as we get it done, that's all that matters."

Woods without a point as American keep the lead

MELBOURNE, Australia(AP)—The Americans kept the lead in the Presidents Cup, and they still don't have a point from Tiger Woods.

In some of the toughest conditions ever at Royal Melbourne, Aaron Baddeley and Jason Day earned a small measure of redemption by holding on to beat Woods and Dustin Johnson on the 18th hole that helped the International team split the six fourball matches Friday.

The Americans led 7-5 going into a double session Saturday with 10 points at stake.

Woods is 0-2 for the first time ever in this event, and the first time in any team competition since he and Phil Mickelson lost their opening two matches at the 2004 Ryder Cup.

The state of his game was tough to measure, as was the case with any other player. The wind was vicious. On a sand belt course with fast greens, the most telling statistic was that 13 holes in the six matches were won with pars—a rarity in the better-ball format.

International captain Greg Norman, who knows Royal Melbourne as well as anyone, poured water on the 18th green to drive home just how hard it was. The green repelled the water down the slope, none of it absorbed in the firm turf.

"There's probably no where else in the world where that would happen," Norman said.

Norman was mostly impressed with Baddeley and Day. One day after they bogeyed the last two holes and had to settle for a halve, Baddeley came through in the clutch with a tough par on the last hole—right after Woods nearly chipped in for birdie from behind the green—to help keep the International team in the game.

"I was very disappointed yesterday. I feel like I let Jason down," Baddeley said. "So it was great to come through today and make par on the last hole."

Woods was the only American without a point. His game looks fine. The numbers are shocking.

His partnership—Steve Stricker in foursomes Thursday, Johnson in four-balls Friday—has won only one hole in two matches. That came on the fourth hole Friday when Woods rolled in a 25-foot birdie putt, complete with a fist pump that is rarely seen these days. The lead lasted only four holes, however, as Baddeley and Day squared the match with a par on the eighth.

Baddeley made a 25-foot birdie putt on the 13th to go 1 up, and Woods and Johnson couldn't catch up. They just didn't



have enough birdie chances and when they did, they couldn't make them.

"Just trying to hit the greens, that was a heck of an accomplishment," Woods said. "Wedges weren't holding, balls were oscillating on the greens, you've got to play the wind on putts. It was a tough day."

Woods and Johnson will give it another shot Saturday, paired in the foursomes session. They will face Adam Scott and K.J. Choi.

The north wind is considered the toughest at Royal Melbourne. The wind blows harder on links courses in the British Open, but these greens have far more slope and most are elevated. The premium is on precision, and even that isn't always enough.

"It's carnage on a golf course like this today," Adam Scott said after he and K.T. Kim lost to Mickelson and Jim Furyk. "Thank goodness it's match play and we weren't actually counting our strokes."

"Today is a day where it's hard to feel like you're playing well."

Ernie Els, a multiple winner at Royal Melbourne, said it was the fastest he has ever seen the greens because of the heat and wind. Officials did not cut the greens overnight, fearful of wind blowing golf balls all over the place.

"On a scale of 1 to 10, I'd give it an 11 today," Norman said about the conditions as the round began.

The Americans managed just fine.

Bubba Watson and Webb Simpson, the leadoff match for the second straight day, again beat Els and Ryo Ishikawa, closing them out on the 17th hole. Mickelson and Furyk also remained perfect, with Furyk making a birdie on the 17th for a 2-and-1 victory.

The International team won the last two matches. Geoff Ogilvy, who grew up next door at Victoria Golf Club, holed a bunker shot on the fifth hole to give him and Choi a lead they never lost. More importantly, Ogilvy holed a 6-foot par putt on the 18th to take down Nick Watney and Bill Haas, a team that still has not had the lead in two matches.

Retief Goosen and Charl Schwartzel, South Africans with three majors between them, won on the 17th hole against David Toms and Hunter Mahan.

Toms and Mahan are one of five teams that have yet to be split up. Els and Ishikawa will try to get their first point Saturday, while Simpson and Watson, and Mickelson and Furyk, are paired again. The other team that remains intact is Baddeley and Day, who go into Saturday with a lot more confidence after their big win.

Dodgers' Kershaw easily wins NL Cy Young



NEW YORK

(AP)—Clayton Kershaw of the Los Angeles Dodgers won the NL Cy Young Award in a runaway Thursday.

Kershaw received 27 of 32 first-place votes, five seconds and two thirds for 207 points in voting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

"I always dreamed about playing in the big leagues. I never dreamed about doing anything special in the big leagues. I don't think any kid ever does," Kershaw said. "The people I'm now associated with, just by having this award, is something that I never thought would ever happen."

Philadelphia's Roy Halladay, last year's winner, was second with four first-place votes, 21 seconds and seven thirds for 133 points. Phillies teammate Cliff Lee was third with 90 points, followed by Arizona's Ian Kennedy with 76 points.

"Whenever you have a Cy Young next to your name, there's going to be expectations that go along with it," Kershaw said. "Whenever I look at a pitcher and I see that he's won a Cy Young Award, I think, you know, this guy, he better be good. And that's what I hope to be. I hope people have that expectation for me."

With a big curveball that might be the best in baseball, Kershaw won the NL's pitching triple crown. Pitching on a team that went 82-79, he led the league with a 2.28 ERA and 248 strikeouts and with a 21-5 record tied Kennedy for most wins.

The 23-year-old left-hander, whose previous high for victories was 13 in 2010, dominated the league during the final two months of the season, going 8-0 with a 0.96 ERA in his final nine starts.

Kershaw was 5-0 against the defending World Series champion San Francisco Giants,

going 4-0 with a 0.30 ERA in head-to-head matchups with Tim Lincecum, the 2008 and 2009 winner.

His .207 opponents' batting average was the second-lowest in the major leagues among qualified pitchers, trailing only Detroit's Justin Verlander (.192), the unanimous AL Cy Young winner. Kershaw was especially effective at Dodger Stadium, where he went 12-1 with the lowest home ERA in the big leagues at 1.69.

Los Angeles has a chance to sweep the two major NL awards. Matt Kemp is a favorite to win the MVP, which is announced Tuesday.

It was the 10th Cy Young won by the Dodgers, following Don Newcombe (1956), Don Drysdale (1962), Sandy Koufax (1963, 1965 and 1966), Mike Marshall (1974), Fernando Valenzuela (1981), Orel Hershiser (1988) and Eric Gagne (2003).

Kershaw downplayed any comparisons with Koufax.

"I'm still uncomfortable with it. I don't want to have any disrespect for Mr. Koufax. He did it for a long time. He won a lot of awards and he won World Series. He threw no-hitters. Just a lot of things I'm not anywhere close to accomplishing yet," Kershaw said. "I have tremendous respect for him and would never want to ever put myself in the same category as him."

A bargain with a \$500,000 salary, Kershaw did not have a bonus provision. Halladay won \$75,000 for finishing second and Lee \$50,000 for finishing third.

A Dallas native who still lives in Texas, Kershaw said he comes from an area where "football is king."

Still, if kids want to emulate him, they can play baseball in the springtime.

"Anything to stay away from lacrosse, in my opinion," he said with a laugh.

Syracuse puts Fine on leave after police inquiry



SYRACUSE,

N.Y. (AP)—

Just two weeks after Penn State was rocked by a child sex-abuse scandal, Syracuse police said they were investigating child molesting allegations against a longtime assistant basketball coach at Syracuse University.

The school placed Bernie Fine on administrative leave Thursday night "in light of the new allegations and the Syracuse City Police investigation."

ESPN said the accusations were made by two former ball boys.

Bobby Davis, now 39, told the network Fine allegedly molested him beginning in 1984 and that the sexual contact continued until he was around 27. A ball boy for six years, Davis told ESPN the alleged abuse occurred at Fine's home, at Syracuse basketball facilities and on team road trips, includ-

ing the 1987 Final Four.

Davis' stepbrother, Mike Lang, 45, who also was a ball boy, told ESPN that Fine molested him starting while he was in fifth or sixth grade.

Syracuse police spokesman Tom Connellan said the inquiry is in its early stages.

"It's information that came to us today" Connellan said, declining to identify who provided it. Fine is in his 35th season as an assistant to coach Jim Boeheim.

Syracuse, meanwhile, said it had conducted its own investigation years ago and couldn't find witnesses to corroborate the allegations.

ESPN said it first investigated the accusations in 2003, but decided not to run the story because there was no independent evidence to corroborate the allegations. Recently, a second man contacted ESPN, alleging that Fine also molested him.

That person said he decided to come forward after seeing the

Penn State coverage.

The Post-Standard said it, too, held off in 2003 for the same reason.

A statement by Kevin Quinn, the school's senior vice president for public affairs, said Syracuse was contacted in 2005 by "an adult male who told us that he had reported to the Syracuse City Police that he had been subjected to inappropriate contact by an associate men's basketball coach."

Quinn said the alleged activity took place in the 1980s and 1990s.

"We were informed by the complainant that the Syracuse City Police had declined to pursue the matter because the statute of limitations had expired," Quinn said.

Quinn said the school conducted its own four-month investigation at that time, including interviews with people the accuser said would support his allegations, but that all of them "de-

nied any knowledge of wrongful conduct" and that the coach also denied the allegations.

Boeheim released a statement saying: "This matter was fully investigated by the university in 2005 and it was determined that the allegations were unfounded.

"I have known Bernie Fine for more than 40 years. I have never seen or witnessed anything to suggest that he would (have) been involved in any of the activities alleged. Had I seen or suspected anything, I would have taken action. Bernie has my full support."

Davis said he felt bitter emotions after sex scandals emerged in the Catholic Church and, lately, with the allegations and charges against former Penn State defensive coordinator Jerry Sandusky.

In the Penn State case, Sandusky is accused of sexually abusing eight boys over 15 years. The case cost Joe Paterno his job, and former school ad-



AP
Los Angeles Dodgers starting pitcher Clayton Kershaw is introduced during a baseball news conference at Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles, Thursday, Nov. 17, 2011. Kershaw

Cubs hire Sveum as new manager

The Chicago Cubs have hired Dale Sveum as their new manager, hoping the Milwaukee Brewers hitting coach can help turn around the long-suffering franchise. The Cubs said Sveum would be introduced at a news conference Friday at Wrigley Field.

Sveum replaces Mike Quade, who was fired by Theo Epstein, the team's new president of baseball operations. The Cubs finished 71-91 after a disappointing season that extended their infamous championship drought to 103 seasons.

Sveum, who turns 48 next Wednesday, has little experience as a manager, other than

an interim stint for the Brewers late in 2008 after Ned Yost was fired.

Sveum had competition for the Cubs job. Rangers pitching coach Mike Maddux, Phillies bench coach Pete Mackanin and Indians bench coach Sandy Alomar Jr. all interviewed face-to-face for the spot. Red Sox bench coach DeMarlo Hale was interviewed over the phone and former Boston manager Terry Francona pulled himself out of contention.

Sveum also interviewed for the Red Sox manager's vacancy and met a second time this week with officials from both the Cubs and Boston.

Sveum—the name is pronounced swaym—will take over a team that finished fifth in the NL Central and is saddled with big contracts belonging to Carlos Zambrano and Alfonso Soriano. The Cubs also boast a talented young player in All-Star shortstop Starlin Castro, but have a host of personnel questions to sort through.

The Cubs' new management team comes with a championship pedigree that the new manager knows well: Sveum served as Boston's third base coach in 2004-05, when Epstein was the general manager.

At the time, Sveum was

often criticized for an aggressive approach that led to runners being thrown out at the plate. But the coach with the nickname of "Nuts" was part of a championship team and is a believer in the advanced statistical analysis that Chicago's new leadership loves and is counting on to build up the farm system.

"I do my due diligence and video work and prepare as much as anybody," Sveum said before he was hired. "As far as the stats, those are what they are, and we can use them to our advantage. It's helping us win a lot of ballgames, the stats and the matchups. That's just part of the game now, and you use what you can. (AP)

ministrators Tim Curley and Gary Schultz are charged with not properly alerting authorities to suspected abuse and perjury.

Davis told ESPN that Boeheim knew he was traveling on the road and sleeping in Fine's room.

"Boeheim saw me with Bernie all the time in the hotel rooms, on road trips," Davis said. "He'd come in, and see me laying in the bed, kind of glance at me like, 'What are you doing here?' But he wouldn't say that. He'd just scowl. And I would look at him like, I'd be nervous. I felt embarrassed 'cause I felt stupid that I'm there. I'm not supposed to be here. I know it, and Boeheim's not stupid."

In a telephone interview Thursday night with the AP, Boeheim said: "This kid came forward and there was no one to corroborate his story. Not one. Not one. ... They said I walked into Bernie's room on the road and saw this. I have never walked into Bernie's room on the road. This isn't true. This just isn't true."

Former Syracuse center Rony

Seikaly, who worked closely with Fine throughout his college career and exchanged text messages with him just Wednesday, told the AP he refuses to believe the allegations.

"Bernie would never do such a thing," Seikaly said in a telephone interview in Miami. "I vouch for Bernie. There is no way something like this could ever happen in my eyes. No way."

Seikaly said he questions why the ball boy would come forward again now, adding that he believes the headlines generated by the scandal at Penn State may have been a motivating factor.

"Completely ridiculous," Seikaly said. "Do people want a quick buck or something? I spent four years with Bernie, every single day. I know what kind of guy he is. He's just a very helpful guy. He was the glue to Syracuse basketball. He's still the glue 20 years later when you're already gone. He keeps in touch with every single player. He's that kind of guy."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

| | W | L | T | Pct | PF | PA |
|-------------|---|---|---|------|-----|-----|
| New England | 6 | 3 | 0 | .667 | 259 | 200 |
| Buffalo | 5 | 4 | 0 | .556 | 229 | 218 |
| N.Y. Jets | 5 | 5 | 0 | .500 | 228 | 217 |
| Miami | 2 | 7 | 0 | .222 | 158 | 178 |

South

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|----|---|------|-----|-----|
| Houston | 7 | 3 | 0 | .700 | 273 | 166 |
| Tennessee | 5 | 4 | 0 | .556 | 186 | 172 |
| Jacksonville | 3 | 6 | 0 | .333 | 115 | 166 |
| Indianapolis | 0 | 10 | 0 | .000 | 131 | 300 |

North

| | | | | | | |
|------------|---|---|---|------|-----|-----|
| Pittsburgh | 7 | 3 | 0 | .700 | 220 | 179 |
| Baltimore | 6 | 3 | 0 | .667 | 225 | 152 |
| Cincinnati | 6 | 3 | 0 | .667 | 212 | 164 |
| Cleveland | 3 | 6 | 0 | .333 | 131 | 183 |

West

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---|---|------|-----|-----|
| Oakland | 5 | 4 | 0 | .556 | 208 | 233 |
| Denver | 5 | 5 | 0 | .500 | 205 | 247 |
| San Diego | 4 | 5 | 0 | .444 | 216 | 228 |
| Kansas City | 4 | 5 | 0 | .444 | 141 | 218 |

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|------|-----|-----|
| N.Y. Giants | 6 | 3 | 0 | .667 | 218 | 211 |
| Dallas | 5 | 4 | 0 | .556 | 223 | 182 |
| Philadelphia | 3 | 6 | 0 | .333 | 220 | 203 |
| Washington | 3 | 6 | 0 | .333 | 136 | 178 |

South

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---|---|------|-----|-----|
| New Orleans | 7 | 3 | 0 | .700 | 313 | 228 |
| Atlanta | 5 | 4 | 0 | .556 | 212 | 196 |
| Tampa Bay | 4 | 5 | 0 | .444 | 156 | 233 |
| Carolina | 2 | 7 | 0 | .222 | 190 | 237 |

North

| | | | | | | |
|-----------|---|---|---|-------|-----|-----|
| Green Bay | 9 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 | 320 | 186 |
| Detroit | 6 | 3 | 0 | .667 | 252 | 184 |
| Chicago | 6 | 3 | 0 | .667 | 237 | 187 |
| Minnesota | 2 | 7 | 0 | .222 | 179 | 244 |

West

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|---|---|---|------|-----|-----|
| San Francisco | 8 | 1 | 0 | .889 | 233 | 138 |
| Seattle | 3 | 6 | 0 | .333 | 144 | 202 |
| Arizona | 3 | 6 | 0 | .333 | 183 | 213 |
| St. Louis | 2 | 7 | 0 | .222 | 113 | 223 |

Yesterday's Game

Denver 17, N.Y. Jets 13

LOCAL SCORES

SHIRLEY'S STANDINGS

| | | |
|-----------|---|---|
| Mobil | 6 | 1 |
| DFS | 6 | 2 |
| Fiesta | 6 | 2 |
| PIC | 6 | 2 |
| PSS | 5 | 2 |
| Hyatt | 3 | 4 |
| Wushin | 2 | 6 |
| Grillin' | 1 | 6 |
| Shirley's | 1 | 6 |
| GPPC | 1 | 6 |

TSUNAMI

From Page 28

swimmers, but also for Saipan Swim Club bets. SSC fielded a couple of swimmers in last week's first leg.

"We would like to open our doors to all swimmers and then our target is to have CNMI records in every meet. We have a lot of swimmers who are getting close to CNMI marks," Kimura said.

One of them is Tsunami Saipan's Angel Marie Tan, who according to Kimura is just 0.8 of a second behind the 50m backstroke mark (11 to 12 age group), .02 of a second in the 100m breaststroke, 0.7 of a second in the 100m butterfly, two seconds in the 200m backstroke, and four seconds in the 200m individual medley.

"Shigeki Tenorio, Kensuke Kimura, Kaito Yanai, Hiroto Yanai, Lukas Kang, Ryuto Yanai, Angel De Jesus, and Miku Tammy also have strong chances in breaking the CNMI records in the series," Kimura said.

Kimura also has high hopes on Daime Rivera, who is trying to earn a ticket to the 2011 Guam Championship at the end of this year.

"Daime is getting closer to a BB time for breaststroke. If Daime marks a BB time, she will be selected for the Tsunami Saipan team that will participate in the Guam Championship. She will complete Tsunami's female relay team in the Guam meet. It is the one of our dreams to have a female relay team in Guam," Kimura said.

After today's competition, Tsunami Saipan will have the last two legs of the Northern Marianas Swimming Federation-sanctioned event on Dec. 3 and 10.

Three teams continue dominance in SEDA

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



Es'y Kitchen's IT&E Kamote's, Sand's Bar's Annie's Imuza, and D'Pirates Bar's Sabalu Boys are the current frontrunners of the Saipan Electronic Dart Association's Master, C-Division, and Tuesday B-League after the conclusion of this week's matchups.

IT&E Kamote's is leading the Master division by just a handful, Annie's Imuza holds a firm grip on the C-Division with its 14-game advantage, and D'Pirates Bar's Sabalu Boys is way ahead of the pack in Tuesday's B-League.

In Wednesday's Master pairings, IT&E Kamote's brushed off the Snipers (105-133), 12-5, to improve its win-loss record to 151-87.

Current No. 2 SOS Jokers (147-91) pulled within four games of IT&E with a 15-2 home rout against Jonny's Bar & Grill's Azkals (64-174).

In addition, D'Pirates' M-Destroyers (141-97) fended off the fourth place D'Companeros (106-132), 10-7, at home.

Also Wednesday, Annie's Imuza (145-165) widened its lead atop the



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Es'y Kitchen's IT&E Kamote's, seen here in a file photo, defeated the Snipers on the road at Jonny's Bar & Grill and now holds a four-game lead atop SEDA's Master division after the conclusion of Wednesday's matchups.

C-Division with a 14-1 shellacking of Lucky Shot (92-118) at D'Pirates.

Meanwhile, second-ranked D'Pirates' Yotsketeh Boys (131-64) rescheduled its bout with third-ranked Oneshot (128-67) of VFW Post 3457.

In other results, Naked Fish's Oh! MG (112-98) downed Jonny's Night Hawks (83-127), 12-3, on the road; the Sparks (125-85) defeated Bar Gaia's Gaiana-C (52-158), 13-2, on the road, and Joe's Steakhouse's I Like It (87-123) defeated Gaia's World-C (73-137), 11-4, at home.

Back on Tuesday, the Sabalu Boys bested third-ranked Mixed Blood

Shooters 2 (127-83), 11-4, to improve its card to 165-45.

Sabalu boasts a 36-game margin over the field.

Its sister team Delubyo (129-81) is clinging to the runner-up spot, after absorbing a 5-10 road upset to fifth-ranked GCC Carpenters (121-89); Es'y Shawarma Boys (121-89) edged out Strike Force (94-116), 8-7, to move into a tie for the third spot with GCC; Jonny's Dosukebe Boys (99-11) downed Ombre Za (87-123), 11-4, at home; and the VFW Assashun (67-143) trampled on K-1 Snickers (40-170), 11-4, in a road draw.

KHS

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When they met again in the finals, SIS held a twice-to-beat advantage and won both opening sets in the finals.

"We knew we could do it," echoed the elated players as they were presented with the MISO championship trophy.

Seniors Anthony Foster, Joshua Jones, Justin Kumagai, and Mike Taitano led the Ayuyus with junior Peter Paul Camacho, sophomore David Foster, and freshmen Kenneth Lizama.

"Even though their backs were to the wall in the last four games, they never lost their confidence. I'm very proud of them because it takes a lot of teamwork to pull off a comeback like that," said

LOPSIDED

From Page 28

Wushin with Jun Tabora tallying 10.

Abuy regained his shooting touch in the third, drilling three more treys to help PIC retain the double-figure lead, 79-60, entering the fourth canto. Then in the final period, Abuy finished what he started, as he connected on eight more triples after Wushin allowed him several open looks at the basket. Abuy's 24 points off his barrage of triples outscored the entire Wushin crew, who teamed up for only 18 markers in the fourth canto.

Four other PIC players tallied double figures in the easy win. Rex Yabut chipped in 17, Angelo Fernando added 14, and Bon Tamayo and Zack Diaz chipped in 11 and 10, respectively.

With the victory, PIC improved to a

Fiesta 112, Grillin' 90



Tebow, Broncos top Jets on last-minute drive, 17-13
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Saipan Tribune Sports

Dodgers' Kershaw easily wins NL Cy Young

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

KHS rallies to win 4th straight boys v-ball title

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Kagman High School Ayuyus overcame hurdle after hurdle to clinch its fourth consecutive Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization boys volleyball championship after the conclusion of Thursday's double-elimination tournament held at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

The Ayuyus pulled off the feat in dramatic fashion, dropping the opening set of its last four match-ups only to rise to each occasion in the end.

The Ayuyus were downed by the Geckos from Saipan International School in their very first meeting, but KHS battled its way back through the lower bracket to get its revenge.

See KHS on Page 27



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

The Kagman High School Ayuyus pose for a team photo after being presented with the 2011 MISO boys volleyball championship trophy on Thursday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

Lassiter, Chong in Trench Warz 15 tentative fight card

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Trench Tech Purebred Promotions recently released the tentative fight card for Trench Warz 15: Supremacy set for Dec. 16 at the World Resort Saipan's Royal Taga Ballroom.

So far 11 fights are listed on the card, which features a heavyweight main event between Trench Tech's Mylo "AlabaMMA" Lassiter (1-1) and Guam's Manny "The Enforcer" Chong (8-8) of the Thug Cop Fight Club.

Lassiter is looking to bounce back from a recent submission defeat against South Korea's Doo Hwan



Lassiter

Kim (1-0) in PXC 27, while Chong is returning to the cage after over a two-year hiatus.

Chong was knocked out in his last fight back in July 2009 by Saipan's Kelvin "The Big Hit" Fitial, who is Pacific Xtreme Combat's current heavyweight champion.

In addition, Trench Tech's Shane Pika-boo Alvarez (7-0) will put his featherweight title on the line against Guam's Rob "The Real Deal" Wusstig (2-5) of Countershoot MMA.

Alvarez is looking to stretch his unbeaten streak to eight. He was awarded a unanimous decision after five grueling rounds

See LASSITER on Page 27

Lopsided wins for PIC, Fiesta



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Pacific Islands Club/NVM Angelo Fernando, seen here going for an off-balance shot against Mobil defenders, is one of the five players who scored in double figures in the defending champion's 124-78 rout of Wushin in the Shirley's caging last Thursday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

James Abuy drained a record 14 triples to power Pacific Islands Club/NVM to a 124-78 demolition of Wushin Corp. during the curtain raiser in the 3rd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League last Thursday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Abuy finished with 44 points and his 14 treys surpassed the

previous record of 10 triples Fiesta's Elmer Esdrelon hit on Nov. 6 against GPPC, Inc. The PIC gunner started his streak shooting early in the opening canto, firing three shots from downtown for the defending champion's 26-17 lead.

Abuy then took a long breather in the second canto and was held to only two markers. However, his other teammates stepped up and PIC managed to stretch the lead to double digits at halftime, 51-36. Seven players scored for PIC in the second canto to keep the driver's seat, while only four piled up points for

See LOPSIDED on Page 27

Tsunami Swim Circuit Series resumes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The second leg of the Tsunami Swim Circuit Series will be held today at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi with host Tsunami Saipan aiming to break more CNMI records.

The first of the four-leg competition took place last Saturday with Tsunami Saipan's Lukas Kang setting a new Commonwealth's record in the 100m backstroke race in the boys U8 division (1:23.74) and Ryuto Yanai doing the same in the 100m freestyle (1:16.11) and 50m freestyle (33.85 seconds).

"If there's only one big meet, some swimmers may miss it. So Tsunami Saipan decided to hold these se-

Tsunami

ries of competitions to give swimmers several chances of improving their times and eventually making CNMI records," Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura said.

"The four legs also save us money, time, and labor," Kimura added.

The second leg of the swim circuit will start at 3:30pm with Tsunami Saipan holding 200m events. Next up will be the 100m races, beginning at 3:40, while the 50m sprints will start at 4:30pm. Warm-ups will run from 2:30 to 3:30pm.

The swim circuit is not only for Tsunami Saipan
See TSUNAMI on Page 27



Shirley's COFFEE SHOP

Shirley's COFFEE SHOP



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Tsunami Saipan swimmer plunges into the pool during a local meet last month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi. Tsunami Saipan will host the second leg of the swim circuit series today.